



38 injured as Portadown loyalists riot

From Richard Ford, Portadown

Hundreds of rioting 'loyalists' clashed with the security forces yesterday in Portadown, Co Armagh, in angry protest against the Government's decision to ban a big Protestant parade through the town.

With the Army standing at the ready, youths hurled bricks at the police while middle-aged men and women screamed abuse and laughed at the predicament of the police.

supporters from marching into the town centre. The Queen was visibly shocked yesterday when she saw the wreckage of Hampton Court Palace after a fire which killed a general's widow and caused millions of pounds of damage.

Government pledge to pay for full restoration



The Queen with Lord Maclean, the Steward of Hampton Court, inspecting the damage after the fire at the palace yesterday (Photograph: John Voos).

Widow dies as blaze sweeps Hampton Court

By Colin Hughes

The Queen was visibly shocked yesterday when she saw the wreckage of Hampton Court Palace after a fire which killed a general's widow and caused millions of pounds of damage.

GLC bids farewell to politicians

By Hugh Clayton, Environment Correspondent

A banner reading "We'll meet again" flying from the Houses of Parliament across the Thames, marked the final moments of the Greater London Council last night.

Shake-up may aid inner city pupils

By Richard Evans, Lobby Reporter

Plans for a nationwide network of "Crown" schools, run directly by the Government and concentrated in Britain's inner city areas, are gaining increasing support from Cabinet ministers as part of the proposed shake-up of state education.

Luxury flat proposal for palace dropped

By Hugh Clayton, Environment Correspondent

The Government has dropped plans to cut the trading loss at Hampton Court palace by turning several of its historic rooms into luxury flats.

Tomorrow Waiting for the Colonel



How a British journalist, guest of Gaddafi at an anti-imperialism conference, found himself under arrest

Meeting fire with fire

Street violence: return of the vigilante

Portfolio

The Times Portfolio competition resumes today with the daily prize of £2,000. Portfolio list, page 22; the rules and how to play, information service, page 16.

Express deal

Express Newspapers has agreed job cuts and changes in working practices with all unions. More than 2,500 of the 6,800 staff will take redundancy or early retirement.

Howe pledge

Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, who is visiting Delhi, said Britain was willing to make it easier to extradite terrorists to India.

Police in nuclear site battle

Wackersdorf (Reuters) - Police yesterday turned water-jets faced with tear gas on anti-nuclear demonstrators at the planned site of West Germany's first nuclear reprocessing plant.

166 killed in Mexico air crash

From John Cartin, Mexico City

A Mexican commercial airliner with 166 people on board, including eight crew members, crashed yesterday morning 100 miles west of Mexico City.

Brighter outlook for world economy

By David Smith, Economics Correspondent

A more cheerful picture of the world's economic prospects is being given in forecasts by economists at the Paris-based Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development.

Books burnt as Gaddafi bans English

From Robert Fisk, Tripoli, Libya

In a demonstration which most seem chillingly similar to those ones staged in Nazi Germany, Colonel Gaddafi this week ordered officials at Libya's largest university to burn hundreds of English and French textbooks and close departments of English and French studies on the campus.

Wintry weather keeps holiday traffic low

By Robin Young

Snow, gritting machines, heavy rain and gale force winds were among the obstacles Easter holidaymakers contended with yesterday as cold and miserable weather put paid to the last day of the bank holiday break.

Liverpool on top

By Robin Young

In a heavy Easter Monday sports programme, Liverpool went to the top of the first division for the first time this season when they won 2-0 at home to Manchester City.

Spain drafts 8,000 police to deter bombers

Madrid (Reuters) - Spain will draft 8,000 police reinforcements to Mediterranean resorts areas this summer to guard against possible bomb attacks by Basque separatists.

Soviet tirade

Superpower squabbling worsened with an attack by Mr Gorbachev on the Reagan Administration and an anti-US tirade over the supply of missiles to rebels.

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High fat levels treble likelihood of heart disease, study shows

Men with high fat levels in their blood run more than three times the risk of a heart attack, and it does not matter what kind of fat it is, according to the results of a British study announced today.

For 10 years doctors around the world have believed that people with a high proportion of one type of cholesterol in their blood would enjoy protection against heart disease. The theory was that this low-fat cholesterol helped remove deposits of more harmful high-fat cholesterol from artery walls, preventing them from clogging up.

But the findings of the British study of almost 8,000 middle-aged men have shown that this way of predicting who is at risk may be useless, at least in Britain.

Researchers analyzed 202 heart attacks among the men over a four-year period, and found that the total amount of cholesterol in the blood was a far more powerful and consistent predictor of risk.

Professor Gerald Shapiro, who is running the study from London's Royal Free Hospital with the help of the British Heart Foundation, said that the old theory might only be valid in countries where total cholesterol levels were low.

"In Great Britain, average levels of total cholesterol are high by international standards and thus carry a twofold risk of acute coronary heart disease compared with countries with lower levels," he said.

One message from the study

is that people should eat less fat, yet another survey to be published this week suggests that many family doctors are ignorant about healthy eating.

The survey found that although 99 per cent of GPs give dietary advice to their patients, more than 70 per cent had never heard of the Name report, one of the most widely publicized official studies on healthier eating, which made specific recommendations for reducing consumption of fat, sugar and salt and increasing intake of starchy foods, cereals and vegetables rich in fibre.

The survey, to be published in GP Magazine, found that even among doctors who recalled these recommendations, only half did so with reasonable accuracy.

Teachers' need for praise

By Lucy Hodges, Education Correspondent

The Government should stop criticizing teachers on the ground that there was a major crisis of confidence in the education service, a union conference was told yesterday.

Politicians should give praise and thanks from time to time, Mr John Inman, president of the National Association of Schoolmasters/Union of Women Teachers, told the opening session of the annual conference in Scarborough, North Yorkshire.

In a plea to the Government, Mr Inman said: "Allow the local authorities the freedom in financial terms to negotiate a sensible package for all parties to the Arbitration and Conciliation Advisory Service (Acas) talks. It will cost much more than you have so far indicated."

He said the Government

stood condemned for its "total lack of interest" in resolving the most damaging teachers' dispute in education history. He called on all political parties to make education a priority so that there could be a wide-ranging debate leading to a new Education Act.

"The 1944 Act was being floated and did not meet today's needs, which were a new consensus and appraisal of the rights and responsibilities of all parties, including the Secretary of State for Education and Science, local authorities and schools."

"Legislation at the periphery will not do. The crisis in the service is too deep, the relationship too harmed and distorted for that," Mr Inman said.

The Secretary of State for Education and Science was

empowered under the Act to promote an efficient education service. But Sir Keith Joseph had claimed he had the responsibility but not the power on many issues, he said.

"The fact that a school in Manchester was effectively closed for most of the last two terms did not seem to concern the person who has a duty to promote an efficient service."

● The executive of the National Union of Teachers suffered defeat at its annual conference in Blackpool yesterday when members voted to campaign for the abolition of fixed-term teacher contracts.

The NUT also gave notice to local authority employers that it would not trade off conditions of service for higher pay in forthcoming Acas negotiations.



Passengers enjoying a burst of spring sunshine in the commercial heavy horses (pairs) entry at The London Harness Horse Parade Society gathering in Regent's Park yesterday.

Pacemaker boy goes home

Mark Clarke, aged three months, who was fitted with a heart pacemaker last Friday, left hospital yesterday.

The boy, weighing 11lb, was allowed home with his mother, Mrs Esther Clarke. He was said to have been making excellent progress after the device was implanted and had

been expected to leave hospital on Sunday, until he developed a slight temperature. Surgeons at the Children's Hospital in Birmingham kept him in overnight for observation.

Mrs Clarke said yesterday: "He used to be so pale but now he has got lovely rosy cheeks." A defective heart had been

diagnosed before the boy was born. It was found to be pumping at 50 beats a minute instead of the normal 110.

The pacemaker, the size of a 50p coin and weighing a few grams, was implanted under the skin in his left armpit, using a technique developed at the hospital.

Disease fear from contact lenses

Doctors in Britain and America are increasingly concerned that extended-wear contact lenses could cause serious eye damage.

There have been several recent cases of patients losing their sight and needing corneal transplants to restore vision after developing serious eye infections, according to medical evidence.

The Moorfields Eye Hospital in London, which deals every month with many cases of disease related to the use of contact lenses, believes that some of the serious infections are related to extended-wear contact lenses.

Mr Roger Buckley, director of the hospital's contact lens department and a member of a government health committee investigating problems associated with soft lenses, said that some operations for corneal grafts had been performed after serious eye infections occurred.

Doctors say that the soft stay-in lenses should be removed to give the eyes a rest once a week, and at the outside once a fortnight, so that they can be cleaned and sterilized to prevent bacteria developing in the eyes. Many people, however, leave their lenses in for weeks and even months on end.

Mr Buckley said that a red, sore eye is the first signal of a problem, and the contact lens user should remove the lenses immediately.

The Department of Health and Social Security said yesterday that three government health committees are investigating the possible dangers of extended-wear contact lenses.

Many doctors believe that the safest type of contact lenses are daily-wear, hard lenses which must be removed and cleaned regularly.

Ski lifts battle of Lurcher's Gully

By Ronald Faux

Proposals to spend more than £2 million on new ski lifts in the Cairngorms in northern Scotland are expected to renew disagreements between developers and conservationists.

Lurcher's Gully, an old area of contention, could again be in dispute.

The Cairngorms Chairlift Company, with the support of the Highlands and Islands Development Board, has disclosed its long-term plans and lodged them with the Highland Regional Council, the planning body, as "an act of good faith".

The company, which serves about 6,500 skiers a day on its Cairngorm lifts, insists its new proposals differ greatly from those rejected by an eight-week public inquiry in 1981.

No road would be built into Lurcher's Gully and access would be by ski tow. Downhill skiers say that using the gully would ease the pressure on other parts of the mountain and allow skiers to move from one valley to the next.

The company has proposed an immediate extension to the ski grounds west of Coire Cas and applied for permission to build snow fences to create links with extra ski fields.

The long-term proposals are for a further six ski tows, snow-making machinery and more facilities for visitors. There would be no extensions to the roads or car parking to the west.

The Nature Conservancy Council said there was no conflict about developments to the east of the present downhill ski areas but anything to the west would encroach on the Northern Corries site of special scientific interest. Development of Lurcher's Gully would probably be unacceptable.

Missing girl dead, family believes

The grandmother of the missing schoolgirl Sarah Harper, aged 10, wept yesterday as she said the family believed that the child was dead.

Mrs Marjorie Hopton said: "I believe, and her mum believes, that Sarah is no longer alive."

She pleaded with anyone who may be holding the child or knew of her whereabouts: "We want our baby home. Please let her go."

"I know they will be frightened of being caught but if they leave her somewhere local we will pick her up."

"I am praying that she is not dead, but I am beginning to think the worst after so long. The longer it goes on the more the hope diminishes."

Mrs Hopton was comforted by Woman Police Constable Julie Eastwood while she spoke. The officer has been staying with Sarah's mother, Jackie, who is pregnant.

Mrs Hopton added: "The last four days have been absolute hell. Jackie is doing her best to bear up. She has short spasms where she is normal and then crumbles and goes to pieces again."

She said: "If somebody has got her the damage has been done already, so please let her

go and come home to us and her little sister and brother."

Mrs Hopton said that Sarah had been told always never to go with strangers, especially after being approached 18 months ago and running away. "We always told her to scream and make as much noise as possible."

"We always drilled it into Sarah and her sister. She would never go with strangers and would only go with someone if they were very good friends - people she would call aunty and uncle."

She said that Sarah had made the trip to the corner shop, only 200 yards from her home in Brunswick Place, Morley, near Leeds, many times before last Wednesday, when she vanished.

"Sometimes she would go with her sister and others alone and on occasions she came home from school in the dark, and there was never any trouble."

The man leading the hunt, Det Supt John Staithorpe, said: "This girl seems to have disappeared into thin air."

"The person responsible is causing a hell of a lot of misery. If anyone knows who has taken her, just turn him in quickly. He just isn't worth shielding."

TV drugs overdose ban sought

Mrs Mary Whitehouse has asked Mr Alisdair Milne, Director-General of the BBC, to instruct all television producers to avoid scripts involving graphic drug overdoses.

Mrs Whitehouse, who is president of the National Viewers and Listeners Association, said yesterday that she was still waiting for Mr Milne to publicly apologize for the "irresponsible and ill-conceived" assumed drug overdose shown last month on the series *EastEnders*.

She claimed that the episode, in which one of the characters, Angie, swallows tablets and gin, inspired a spate of similar incidents.

Mrs Whitehouse said that a letter from a doctor and nurse at Hackney hospital, east London, published in *The Lancet* on March 22, claimed there had been a 300 per cent increase in drug overdose cases admitted to the hospital that week.

Youth on rat rabies charge

A French youth accused of breaking the anti-rabies laws by smuggling his pet rat into Britain, was remanded on bail until Friday by Marlborough Street Magistrates Court, yesterday.

Nicolas Costandi, aged 17, was charged with illegally landing the rat, aged five weeks, at Dover on Good Friday. He was arrested in King's Road, Chelsea, on Saturday. The rat has been destroyed.

Mother and quins 'stable'

The world's first test-tube quadruplets were in a "stable and satisfactory" condition yesterday in hospital in London.

Mrs Linda Jacobsen, aged 31, the mother of the five boys, was also said by University College Hospital, London, to be "satisfactory" after giving birth by Caesarean section last Wednesday.

Milestone for Pump Room

Mrs Sonia Monaghan, from Reigate, Surrey, who is on holiday with her family in the Cotswolds, visited the Pump Room at Bath yesterday and found herself being greeted by delighted city council officials as the attraction's millionth visitor this financial year.

The record figure makes the Pump Room Britain's second most popular tourist attraction after the Tower of London.

Sea protest

Greenpeace protesters plan to release 1,000 coloured wooden discs into the Irish Sea off Sellafield today to demonstrate that waste from the Sellafield nuclear reprocessing plant contaminates populated areas of coastline.



Mr and Mrs Burling at their wedding yesterday.

Donor cards for guests

The 400 guests at the wedding yesterday of Miss Pauline McLaughlin and the dozens of villagers who watched, were handed kidney donor cards.

Miss McLaughlin, aged 22, of Bishopcleeve, near Glasgow, who married Mr Will Burling at the local Roman Catholic Church, was given a new kidney in a transplant operation last October.

Her father, Mr John McLaughlin, said: "My wife and I cannot thank the person who gave a kidney that my

daughter might live". But he decided that he could ask everyone at the wedding to sign a donor card.

Mr McLaughlin said that his daughter suffered kidney failure in 1983. The couple became engaged when his daughter started dialysis treatment, but marriage was not in prospect until last October when a suitable kidney became available.

A week after the operation "life had become so transformed for Pauline that she and Will were able to set a date", Mr McLaughlin said.

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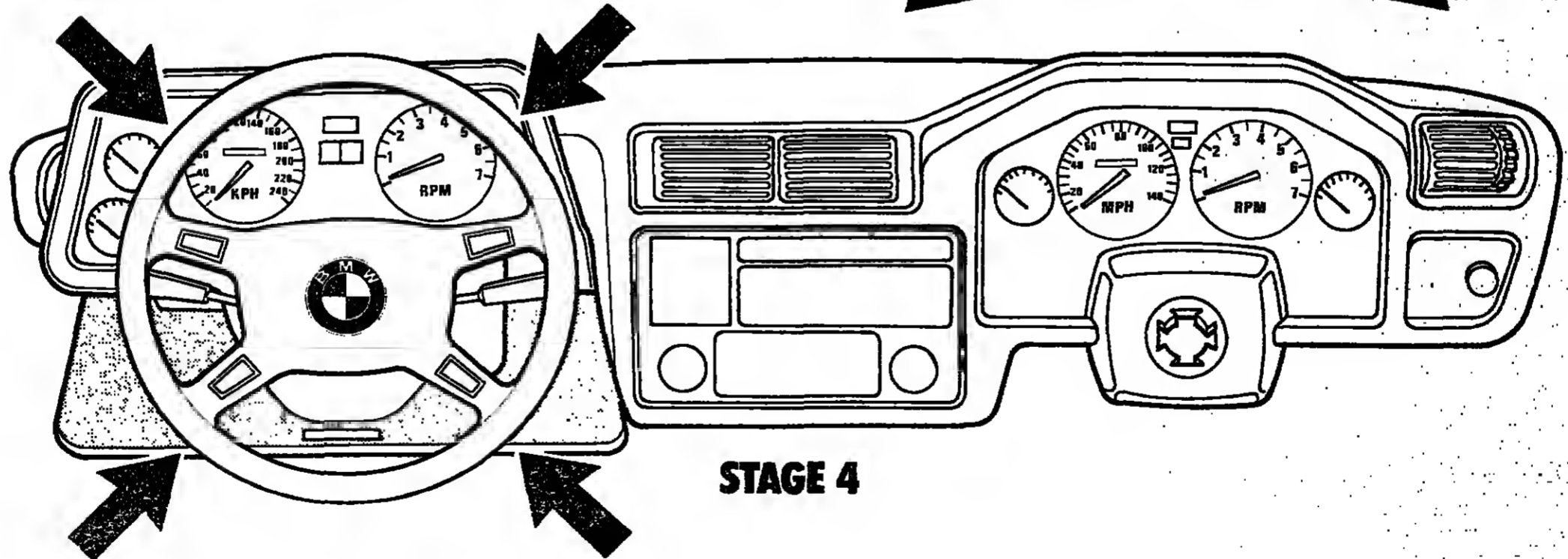
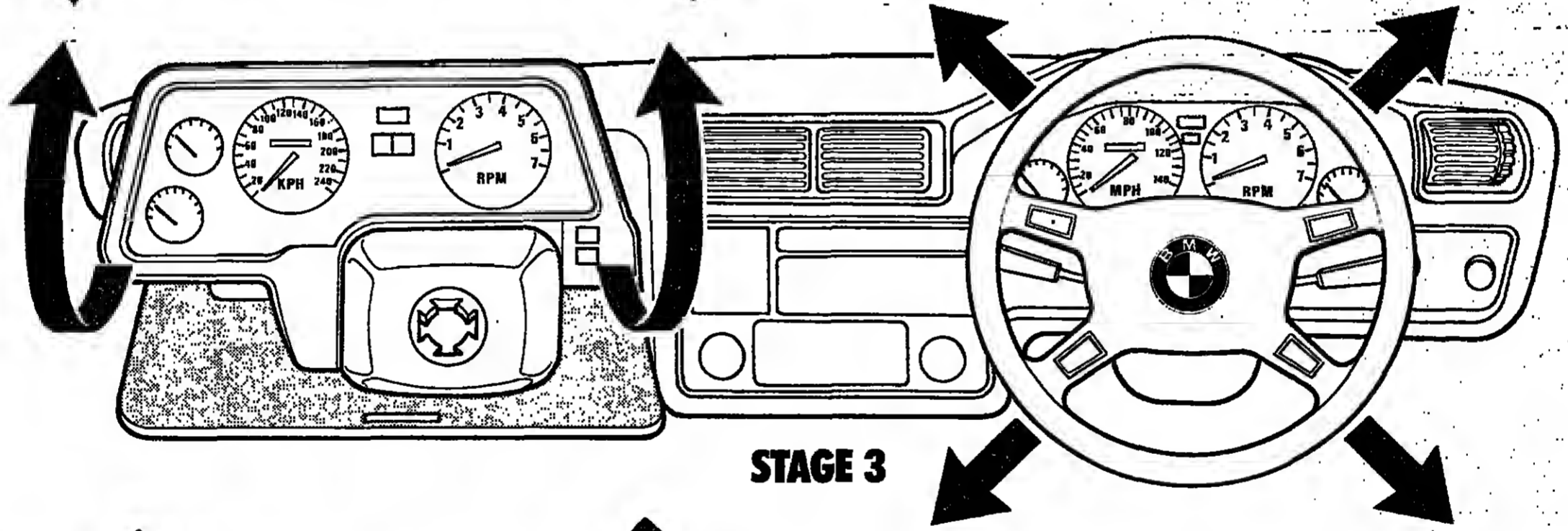
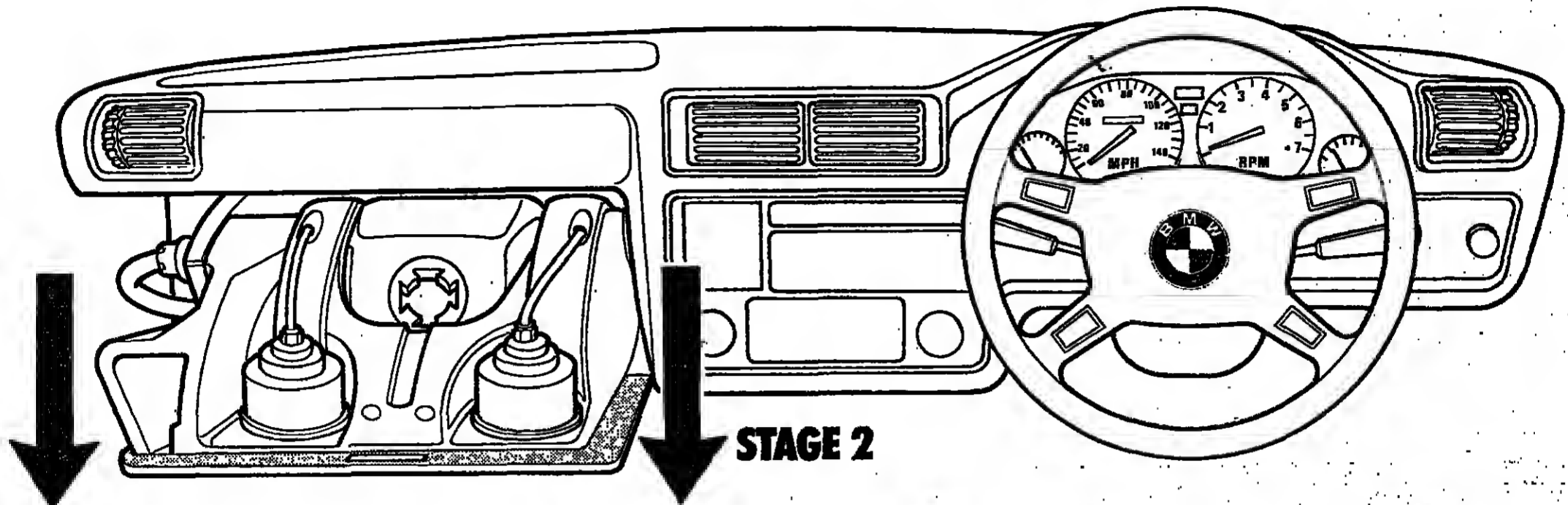
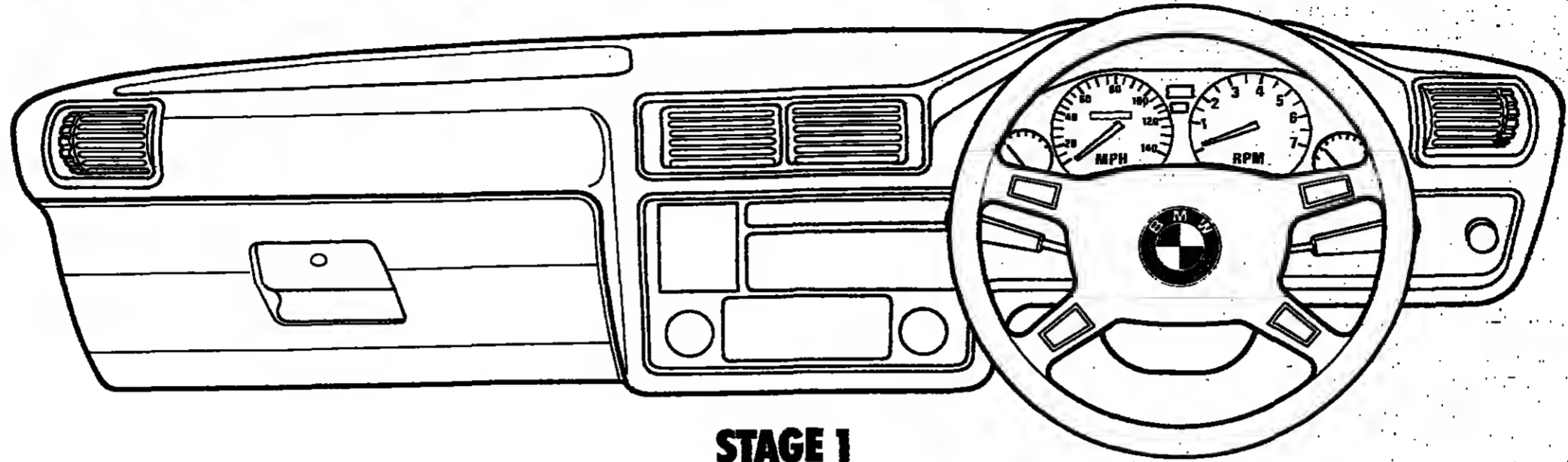
(1) The above financial figures are based on a 3-year Renault 11 lease with a 10,000-mile limit. All these finance plans include free Renault Care for the whole period of the agreement.

Peace of mind motoring on a budget; that's Renault's financial advice for this Spring. And for a limited period it's possible with our 9.7% APR on every new Renault 9 and 11. These are front wheel drive cars with five speed gearboxes and a wide choice of engines from 1.1 to 1.7 litres including petrol or diesel. Our economics are flexible too. If the figures shown don't suit, we'll be happy to arrange some that do. Visit your Renault dealer soon to find out more about cutting your driving costs and cares. Without curbing any of your desires.

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The offer is subject to credit criteria and applies to all new Renault 9s and 11s ordered and registered between 17th March and 31st May 1986 (offer does not include Channel Isles). Written quotations on request from any Renault dealer (see Yellow Pages). Credit facilities provided by Renault Loan Ltd, North West House, City Road, Chester CH1 3AN. Cash Price (correct at time of going to press) includes 15% VAT. Car Tax, sound system and on the road costs of 1st year's Road Tax and estimated delivery and number plate charges. Free Renault Care is provided for the duration of the credit agreement. RENAULT recommends 4000 Lubricants.

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Since the 'Droit de Seigneur' act, passed in 1867, the French have always driven on the right-hand side of the road.

This is not merely a matter of inconvenience for British drivers; it is also a potential safety hazard. And yet car manufacturers have been ignoring the problem completely.

With one notable exception. Because BMW engineer Aap Rilfühl discovered, just three years ago, that the problem could be tackled; and, with ingenious modifications, a test vehicle was designed that incorporated a unique BMW feature - the multi-dashboard facility.

By incorporating a second-unit steering wheel socket and instrument panel into a conventional

glove compartment, Dr Rilfühl was able to provide the basis for a secondary driving position.

The fascia, naturally enough, conforms to 'Continental' standards - with a kph speedometer, and the 'Lawson' fuel gauge reading in litres.

Then, by the insertion of a lynch-pin into the steering wheel column, fellow engineer Hans Grabbern was able to devise the first quick-release steering wheel. (Incorporated, too, into the column is a secondary 'Continental' horn - the 'Vorin-Drivers' 80 decibel air-horn.)

The final problem, of the foot-pedals, was easily resolved; Herr Grabbern made them transferable, too, with a dual position facility.

At present, this option is only available on the

BMW 3 Series, but it is expected to be available on all models in time for the proposed opening of the Channel tunnel.

And then, for the first time, British drivers will be able to drive abroad without getting on the wrong side of the natives.

To: Live Adjunt-Eggpühld, BMW (GB) Ltd, Ellesfield Avenue, Bracknell, Berks, RG12 4TA.
Please send me more details of the BMW multi-dashboard facility.
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But if you're using our new Terminal, there's something you ought to know.

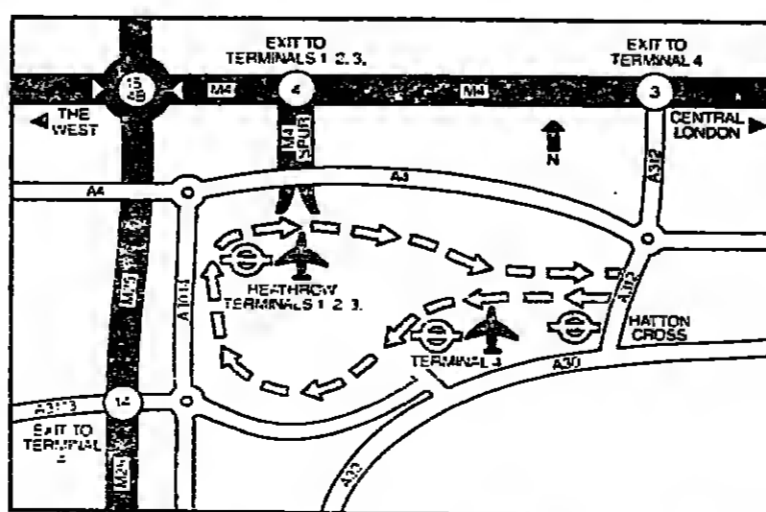
It can't be reached the same way as Terminals 1, 2 and 3.

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سكوتيا في لندن

Gorbachov accuses Reagan

Bitter Soviet tirade over US supply of missiles to rebels

From Christopher Walker, Moscow

The war of words between the superpowers escalated yesterday when the Kremlin launched a bitter attack on the US over reports that it has been supplying Afghan and Angolan insurgents with Stinger anti-aircraft missiles. And last night Mr Mikhail Gorbachov accused the Reagan Administration of acting with "cynical cruelty" in its "interference" in the affairs of Nicaragua, Angola, Libya and other countries.



Demonstrators using logs charge a perimeter fence of a nuclear recycling plant at Wackersdorf, West Germany, yesterday during an Easter rally attended by 30,000 people. Police used water cannon and irritant gas against some of the protesters.

Cairo goes it alone over Libya

From A Correspondent Cairo

Egypt has signalled that despite its differences with Colonel Gaddafi Cairo has no intention of being dragged into any US-sponsored military action against his regime. In an article by Mr Ibrahim Nafeh, the paper's President and a confidant of President Mubarak, the semi-official al-Ahram paper said yesterday that the US had three times suggested that Egypt join its military action against Libya. Each time Egypt refused.

Sudan scraps Egypt links as a Nimeiry irrelevance

Khartoum (Reuter) - Sudan has decided to dissolve the institutions set up under its 1982 integration agreement with Egypt, which it considers an extravagant and irrelevant legacy from deposed President Jaafar Nimeiry.

The Cabinet took the decision on Sunday on the ground that the integration "was an act imposed from above which did not express the joint interests of the two peoples," the official Sudan news agency Sana said. The main practical effect of the decision is that the heads and employees of the integration bureaucracy will return to their original jobs in the civil service.

Canadian senator calls off his fast

Ottawa - Senator Jacques Hébert drank a glass of grapefruit juice, ending a three-week hunger strike on behalf of unemployed Canadian youth (John Best writes).

The 62-year-old Liberal gave up his fast after a former Liberal minister, Mr Jean Chrétien, promised to seek ways to revive an axed youth programme.

Beatle mania in Russia

Moscow (AP) - Copies of two Beatles albums were an immediate sellout in their debut at Soviet record stores over the weekend, officials of the state recording company Melodiya said. This is the first time Melodiya has received official sanction to produce Beatles LPs.

Silence ends

Rio de Janeiro (AFP) - The Vatican has lifted a one-year sentence of silence imposed last May on the Brazilian Franciscan priest, Father Leonard Boff, a leading exponent of liberation theology, informed sources said here.

Soviet scandal

Moscow (Reuter) - A number of senior officials, including ministers, were sacked after a Turkmenistan cotton scandal involving falsified figures which cost the state about £37 million, Pravda said.

Hotel riot

Leerdam (AP) - Dutch police are investigating a weekend riot that burnt down a hotel where right-wing groups were holding a meeting.

Sea rescue

Troisdorf, West Germany (AP) - The West German ship Cap Anamur II rescued 100 "boat people" in the South China Sea, a private humanitarian organization said.

Clip joints

Seoul (AFP) - Seventeen barber shop owners were arrested here and 87 women employees sent to a re-education camp on charges of prostitution. Police raided 145 all-night shops.

Scientists could verify bomb tests

From Alan McGregor, Geneva

Looking beyond the present Soviet-American propaganda duel, government-appointed experts from 32 states, including the two superpowers and Britain, have produced a report saying that international seismic monitoring of underground nuclear tests can be assured with technical improvements to existing or planned national installations. The experts, meeting under the auspices of the UN Disarmament Conference, assessed results of a two-month experiment involving 75 seismograph stations in 37 countries and found that 50 seismological stations around the globe could ensure reliable identification of tests, provided they had modern digital characteristics. For a few countries the present link to the World Meteorological Organization network, which transmits data to international processing centres, must be improved.

Gunpowder clue to Palme killing

From Christopher Mosey, Stockholm

Police hunting the assassin of Mr Olof Palme, the Swedish Prime Minister, were in more optimistic mood yesterday as they held a surprise bank holiday press conference to show the type of murder weapon they are searching for. Mr Hans Holmér, the Stockholm police chief, posed for photographers holding long and short-barrelled versions of a Smith and Wesson .357 Magnum revolver. "We are certain this was the sort of gun used," he said. Mr Holmér said two microscopic particles of gunpowder had been found on the arm of a jacket worn by Victor Gunnarsson, the man previously charged with the murder but released because of lack of evidence. Mr Gunnarsson, aged 32, is now in protective custody at a secret address. Mr Holmér refused to comment on the significance of the gunpowder particles. The jacket was still being analysed by experts. He said there had been no further interrogation of Mr Gunnarsson, a former member of the extreme right-wing European Workers' Party, which had conducted a virulent campaign against Mr Palme, including the publication of an alleged "missing chapter of his life" in which it was claimed his family had Nazi links. Mr Holmér reminded reporters that a reward of £50,000 would be paid for information leading to the arrest of the assassin - "tax free", he added with a smile. He said recovery of the weapon was always vital in a murder hunt. Police are now analysing the results of aerial photography of central Stockholm carried out at the weekend by a Swedish Air Force Viggen jet fighter equipped with an infrared camera. Mr Holmér said police were now certain that the spot where Mr Palme was shot on February 28 was chosen on impulse by the killer.

LOOK FORWARD TO THE YEAR 2000

Advertisement for Sun Alliance Insurance Group's 'Calendar 2000' policy. It features a large graphic of a calendar and text describing the benefits of the policy, including a cash bonus of up to £20,000. The ad includes a coupon for requesting a free personal illustration.

Start saving now and you could have more than £20,000 in your pocket

Table showing the benefits of the Sun Alliance 'Calendar 2000' policy. It lists 'Present Age' and 'Guaranteed Sum Assured' for various ages, and 'Annual Bonus', 'Capital Bonus at 8 1/2%', and 'Total Projected Maturity Value' for each age group. The table is divided into two sections: 'FOR A MONTHLY INVESTMENT OF £20' and 'FOR A MONTHLY INVESTMENT OF £50'.

Advertisement for Sun Alliance Insurance Group's 'Calendar 2000' policy, continuing from the previous ad. It includes a coupon for requesting a free personal illustration and a list of 'SPECIAL ADVANTAGES FOR HIGHER AGES'. The coupon includes fields for name, address, date of birth, and a section for answering questions about the policy.

Waldheim's other roles

Belgrade (AFP) - The Belgrade newspaper Vecernje Novosti yesterday published further extracts from a 1947 Yugoslav State Commission file on the alleged war activities of Dr Kurt Waldheim, the former UN Secretary-General. The file said that the then Wehrmacht lieutenant, according to witnesses, was not merely an interpreter as he claims, but had quite different functions. One witness, Johan Mayer, had told the commission that Lieutenant Waldheim was officially an aide-de-camp, but in fact carried out the functions of an intelligence officer. Another witness, Markus Hara, said that Lieutenant Waldheim was in charge of Greece, and then Serbia. His job was to analyse enemy forces, the positions and organization of partisans and the state of public opinion. He also had a map of the situation in Russia. Dr Waldheim, who is standing in the Austrian presidential elections on Friday, has maintained that he is totally innocent of any war crimes.

Doubts on Svetlana's visa

From Christopher Walker, Moscow

It was confirmed yesterday that Svetlana Alliluyeva, the only daughter of Joseph Stalin, was trying to leave the Soviet Union after returning here from the West in a blaze of publicity 15 months ago. Mr Viktor Louis, a Soviet journalist often used as an indirect source for official information, told Western reporters that "Alliluyeva was now in Moscow seeking permission to leave the country with her US-born daughter Olga, aged 14. On Sunday, a senior US official told The Times that both mother and daughter had held talks with the American embassy, which regards them both as American citizens. Mr Louis, who has often acted as a conduit for information about Soviet citizens potentially embarrassing to the authorities, was once accused by Alliluyeva, aged 59, of circulating a doctored copy of her memoirs in the West. He said yesterday it was unlikely the Soviet authorities would grant her exit papers although it would probably give them to Olga. Alliluyeva was given back her Soviet citizenship by special decree in 1984 after earlier burning her Soviet passport. The Soviet journalist said

Foreign Secretary promises change in law to allow extradition

Howe's concessions on Sikh extremists ease strains with India

From Michael Hamlyn, Delhi

Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, in his first meeting with his Indian opposite number yesterday, announced a number of significant concessions to the Indian view that London is not doing enough to curb Sikh extremists in Britain.

Sir Geoffrey told Mr Baliram Bhagat, the Minister for External Affairs, that Britain was now prepared to agree to two main steps, which will require amendment of British legislation, making it easier to extradite terrorists to India.

The Foreign Secretary also told the Indian minister that Mr Douglas Hurd, the Home Secretary, had rejected an application by Mr Jaswant Singh Thekedar for asylum.

Mr Thekedar is the self-described defector minister of the would-be independent Sikh state of Khalistan, and caused an outcry in India when he was granted a council house by Ealing Borough Council recently.

In the early morning Sir Geoffrey visited the River Yamuna to lay a wreath on the cremation sites of Mrs Indira Gandhi and Mahatma Gandhi (the one ironically a victim of Sikh extremists, the other of Hindu extremism).

Later he was able to tell Mr Bhagat that Britain would agree to "disapply" the political offence exception in the 1967 Fugitive Offenders Act, which governs extradition between Britain and Commonwealth countries, in respect of conspiracy to India to commit a violent crime there.

Speaking of terrorist vio-

lence, the Foreign Secretary urged a co-operative effort, telling Mr Bhagat: "Let us get on top of this together, before this gets on top of us."

Sir Geoffrey also said Britain was ready to adopt a "co-list" method of judging what offences were extraditable. Instead of a list of offences, all those which carried a sentence of 12 months or more in violence by Sikh extremists threatens the arrival in Punjab next week of thousands of Hindu workers to harvest a record wheat crop (Reuters reports from Amritsar). After 33 Hindus died in weekend attacks, police said armed guards would protect trains and buses carrying the farmworkers from the north.

Punjab contributes about 45 per cent of wheat and rice stocks. A survey suggests that the number of migrant farm workers coming to Punjab for the harvesting had dropped from more than 100,000 three years ago to 50,000 last year, and could drop to about 30,000 this year.

Prison would come within the extradition procedure.

These concessions have been wrung out of the British Government by a long and often bitter campaign on the part of the Indians, who have been unhappy at Britain's willingness to harbour secessionists from both Kashmir and Punjab who, they say, are involved in plotting murder and terrorism in India.

Until last week British officials were still maintaining

that it was not possible to change the extradition arrangements between Britain and India except by adding India's name to those countries covered by the Prevention of Terrorism Act.

The Act, which gives effect to the European Convention on Terrorism, agrees that the political defence shall not apply to terrorism. At present it applies only to European countries, though the US is expected to join shortly. India could be included by a simple Order in Council.

India responded by suggesting a bilateral extradition treaty to replace the Fugitive Offenders Act, but Britain appeared reluctant to make any changes which require primary legislation.

With that reluctance overcome, Indian officials will no doubt be pressing for more changes. Officials of the two countries are to get together today to analyse the present concessions and to see what further may be done.

The Indian Government response in general has so far fallen short of enthusiastic. While the foreign ministry spokesman said that Mr Bhagat "expressed his appreciation" for the refusal of Mr Thekedar's asylum, he gave no reaction to the proposed enhancement of the extradition rules, noting merely that the British proposals would be referred to experts to study.

The spokesman characterized the talks as "candid". A British official described them as "businesslike, substantive and constructive".



Sir Geoffrey Howe donning special socks while visiting the site on the banks of the holy river Yamuna where Indira Gandhi was cremated after her murder by Sikh bodyguards.

Police attacked at Korean rally against Chun rule

From David Watts, Seoul

Police arrested 69 people in the southern city of Kwangju yesterday when opposition supporters defied orders to disperse after a big weekend rally.

The Government warned the opposition that it would not permit such unruly behaviour at a rally again — a public monument was set on fire and police were stoned. The leader of the New Korea Democratic Party (NKDP), Mr Lee Min Woo, apologized for the violent incidents and said the party would try to bring its supporters under control at future rallies. Both Mr Lee and Mr Kim Young Sam of the NKDP had to call on the crowd for calm.

The other leading opposition figure, Mr Kim Dae Jung, is not permitted to take part in political activities under the conditions of his return to South Korea and was prevented from taking a plane south.

That there was not more violence was probably due to the restraint President Chun now shows whenever the opposition holds a rally. The citizens of Kwangju are the most strongly opposed to the President in the country. It was President Chun who ordered troops into Kwangju to quell a student uprising in 1980. The protest was put down with great force and the President has been tainted with that incident in the eyes

of many ever since he assumed power.

Officially the Government says 191 died, but there is widespread disbelief of that figure not least because the Government has steadfastly refused any investigation into the events at Kwangju.

The rally at the weekend was to launch a petition campaign in the south-west of the country. Signatures are being garnered to demand direct presidential elections. This is to give the country a chance to elect a civilian president of its choice rather than the electoral college once again selecting a retired military officer on voters' behalf.

The turn-out at the rally seems to have been the biggest of the present series with estimates ranging up to 100,000 people in spite of Government attempts to divert them with pop singers and other attractions.

President Chun's present soft line with the opposition dates from late February when he entertained opposition leaders at a conciliatory lunch and probably has something to do with the fact that he begins a European tour next Monday in London.

The small of tear gas might taint the atmosphere for the first visit to Britain by a Korean head of state who will be doing his best to portray a genial image as the host of the next Olympic Games.

Prince's house shelled

Tokyo (Reuters) — Two rockets were fired yesterday at the residence of Japan's Crown Prince Akihito and a state guest house near by but both failed to explode.

Police said one rocket landed by a pond in the grounds of the prince's residence and the other near the guest house where foreign dignitaries from six industrialized Western nations will stay during the May economic summit in Tokyo.

A policeman was injured while investigating a burning car in which a launcher cap-

ble of firing four rockets was found.

Authorities said they would step up security for the summit, beginning on May 4, and for a ceremony a week earlier marking the sixtieth anniversary of Emperor Hirohito's reign.

Home-made rockets were launched last week against the US Embassy and the emperor's palace for which the radical left-wing Senki (Battle Flag) group claimed responsibility. The police headquarters in Osaka also came under rocket fire.

China set for East bloc links

Peking (AFP) — China seeks to restore relations with all East European communist parties but will not consider party links with Moscow as long as three obstacles remain, a party spokesman said yesterday.

Mr Wu Xingtang, spokesman for the Chinese Communist Party International Liaison Committee, said that so far as Eastern Europe was concerned, China was ready to restore relations with all parties but to do so with the Soviet Union was impossible.

Peking holds that three obstacles standing in the way of normalization of relations with the Soviet Union are Soviet support for the Vietnamese presence in Cambodia, Soviet troops in Afghanistan and the Soviet military build-up on China's northern frontier.

China has often indicated that it is willing to restore ties with Eastern European parties, but Monday's statement was the first official confirmation that it was pursuing a two-tier strategy in relations with the Soviet Union and its Eastern European allies, analysts said.

Mr Wu said restoration of party ties with Moscow was out of the question now and denied there had been discussion of resuming ties at recent meetings between Chinese and Soviet officials.

"We're happy to notice development of relations with the East European countries in many aspects, political, economic and cultural," he said.

Eastern European diplomats said that countries in Eastern Europe would not resume party ties with Peking until Moscow had done so.

Threat to another Speaker

From Hassan Akhtar, Islamabad

Yesterday's dethronement of the Sindh Assembly Speaker, only 15 months after his election, by a large majority of the Pakistan Muslim League parliamentary party, may pose a similar threat to the Speaker of the National Assembly, Mr Fakhr Imam.

His non-aligned and independent-minded conduct in the house is known to have irked both President Zia ul-Haq and the country's federal government.

Mr Abdullah Husain Haroon, western-educated and the youngest ever Speaker of Sindh provincial assembly, was ousted yesterday from office by an 88-2 vote.

His ouster, though by no means a surprise, aroused widespread condemnation from independent members of national and provincial assemblies. They regarded it as pressure on all members trying to stay out of the newly-formed ruling party and to retain the status on which they were returned in the non-party elections over a year ago.

Ten members of the Sindh Assembly in Karachi, including the ousted speaker, Mr Haroon, boycotted the proceedings, holding them to be contrary to assembly rules. Outside, all public demonstrations were banned.

Observers noted that in the National Assembly, Mr Fakhr Imam has repeatedly asserted that having been elected to a partyless house he would stay non-partisan and would not join the ruling party.

Begum Zia's alliance boycotting May vote

From Ahmed Fazl, Dhaka

A united opposition move to restore democracy in Bangladesh after four years of martial law received a severe jolt yesterday when a seven-party alliance led by Begum Khaleda Zia decided to boycott the May election called by President Ershad.

Begum Zia, who also leads the former ruling Bangladesh Nationalist Party, said the alliance could not take part in elections unless General Ershad quashed martial law convictions passed on former ministers, released political prisoners and allowed press freedom.

"There is no atmosphere for a free vote in the country," Begum Zia told reporters after a 10-day meeting of the alliance had decided in favour of a boycott.

Begum Zia's decision sharpens her party's differences with Sheikh Hasina Wazed's Awami League, the largest political party in the country, which has decided to take part in the election.

Sheikh Wazed's 15-party alliance has split on the polls issue with five parties in the group opposing the election. She said, however, that she was prepared to fight the pro-Ershad Jatiya Party alone.

Student supporters of the two alliances, which had jointly campaigned for democracy since 1983, clashed violently on Sunday at Dhaka University: one student was killed and 30 were injured. Sheikh Wazed blamed Begum Zia's supporters and former alliance colleagues for unleashing terrorism against her party.

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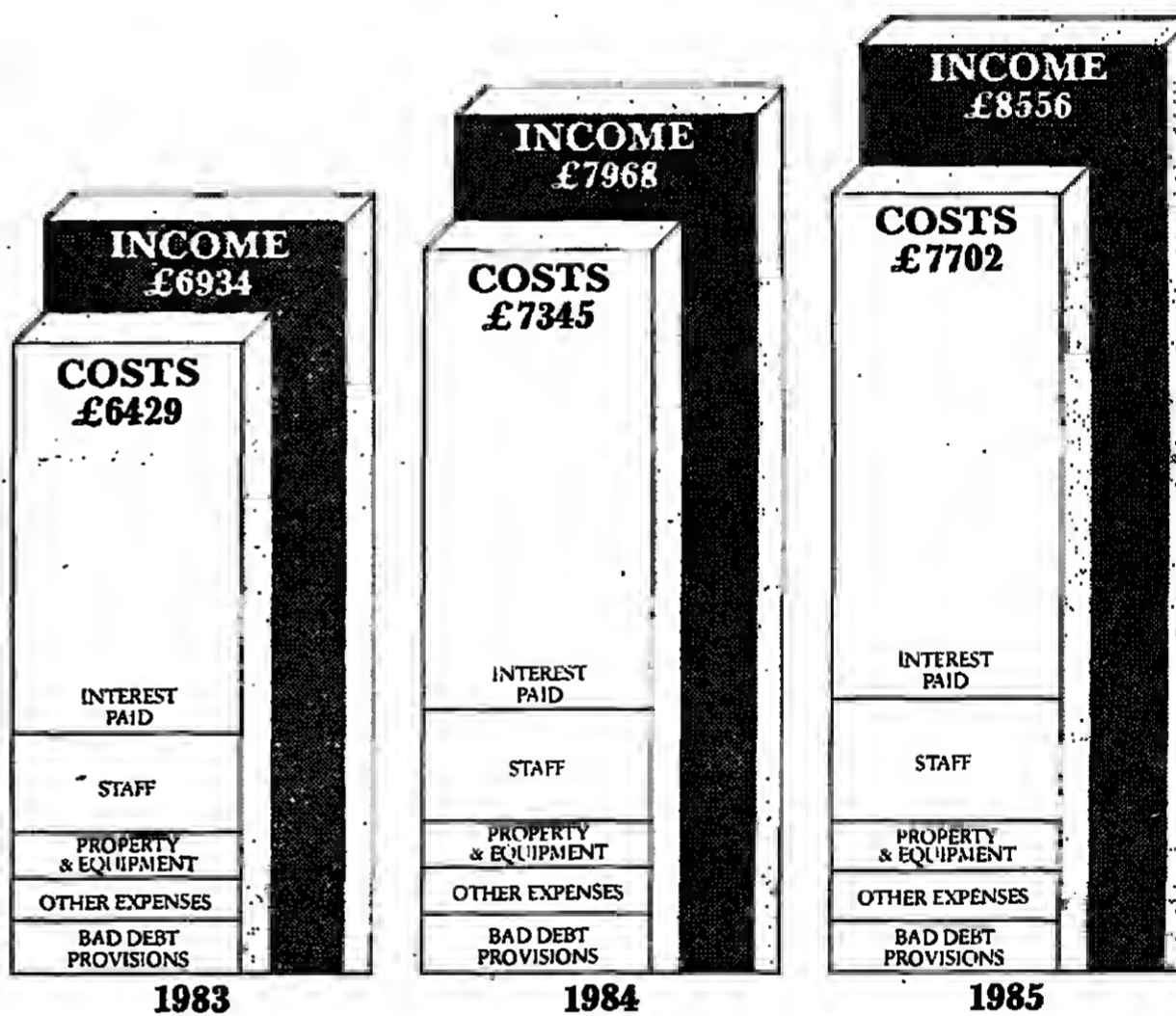
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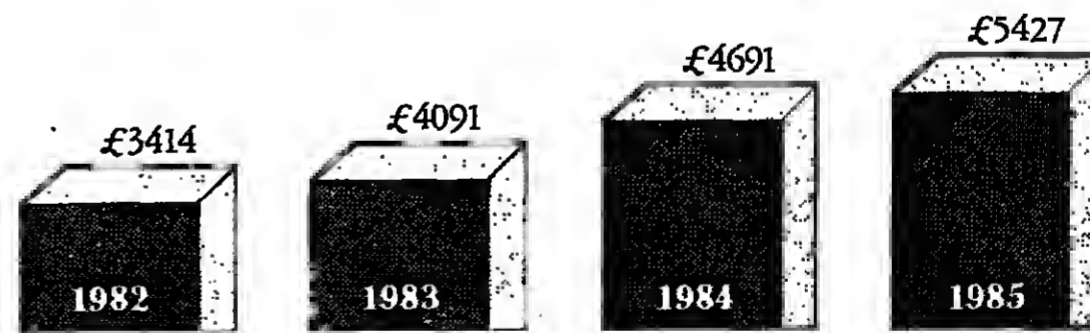
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| | 1983 | 1984 | 1985 |
|------------------------|------|------|------|
| PROFIT BEFORE TAXATION | 505 | 623 | 854 |
| TAXATION | 211 | 328 | 405 |
| PROFIT AFTER TAXATION | 294 | 295 | 449 |

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE (£M)



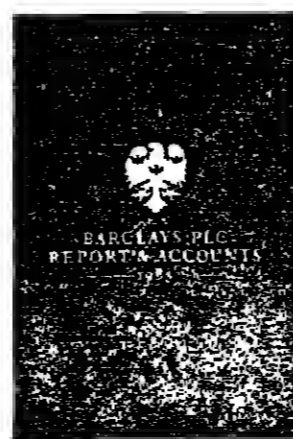
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FASHION by Suzy Menkes

Game, twin-set and match

A stiff breeze is blowing across the knit-wear counters. It comes from the sea and it brings a fresh look to traditional sweaters - for both sexes. Togetherness now means a twin-set, made and meant to match, or mixed in with a wardrobe of casual separates. Those leisure clothes are getting more formal, as the tailored jacket takes its revenge on the blouson and knits follow suit.

The cardigan is the key to men's dressing for the spring holiday. While the women have taken over Professor Higgins's sloppy shapes, the male cardigan has smartened up. It comes waist-length, shawl-collared or double-breasted, and is meant to be worn as a jacket over a buttoned shirt. The sailor's mess uniform or the yachting blazer are the inspiration for the shapes of the knits, which sport brass buttons, regimental stripes, badges and crests.

Trousers are also getting crisper. Although the Levi's 501 campaign is fighting a brave rearguard action for denim, the favourite springweight fabrics are drill, whipcord and cotton poplin, rather than blue jeans. Pleat-front trousers are now universally in fashion in all the younger chains, even if flat-front, stay-pressed pants still rule the high street stores.

Towel-like socks in odd-ball colours like petrol blue and apricot, and an imaginative selection of shirts and ties, have transformed men's shops, with Next the brand-leader for smartening up casual style.

Sportswear was the key that opened men's fashion to colour. The cheery track suits and sweat shirts enhanced, rather than threatened, a macho image.

Now that classic clothes are painted with the same bold brush, the patterned shirts and bright knitwear are accepted as exciting, but not eccentric. Anything now goes for colour, with classics like navy and grey, and the full range of sugared almond pastels, also on offer for the new knits.

Meanwhile, women who were quick to snatch those sweaters and shirts from the male wardrobe are re-drawing the lines between the sexes. Softness is our strength in this game of twin-set and match. The newest way with the elongated cardigans and cable knits is to put them with the flimsiest of skirts.

Transparent chiffon, light as a breeze, is the skirt-style for summer. The ultra-long tunic tops and cardies protect modesty and pin the soft fabrics firmly against the body to the thighs. Below that, the chiffon, voile or pleats billow out like a ship in sail.

The long soft skirts - all the hemlines are near ankle-length - are in deliberate contrast to the tubes of knit or fabric that have made the slim-line silhouette of the past season. Those straight skirts are still with us, but for more



sporty or relaxed occasions a mid-calf skirt with movement provides a high fashion alternative.

The long skirts with pleats, always from the waist rather than the hip, have a Last of Empire feel, as though the wearer were embarking on a leisurely cruise. Accessories also add to the period mood: wedge-heeled, peep-toe sandals, trailing beads and scarves, soft straw hats tied on with chiffon or net.

The knits themselves tend to be longer and softer than the male equivalent - high-collared, sleeveless sweaters under V-neck cardigans that fasten from the waist; fondant pale cable sweaters, redolent of the playing fields of an old English summer.

Ralph Lauren captures precisely this nostalgia for the past, yet expresses it in American preppy clothes for today. It has a lot to do with the fabrics, which are pure cottons and linens, rather than the chain store acrylics that have the shape, but not the feel, of British classics.

Proportion is the name of the game both sexes play with fashion. Just as the man's

shorter, waist-length knitted jacket is married to baggy trousers, so women too are choosing softer, pyjama pants, or even those that flare Sixties-style at the ankle.

There are many fashion frames of reference in current style. The Sixties have also brought back the polo neck, the cut-away sleeve and the short skirt, which is worn under the very long cardigan.

From the 1950s come the tight pants that stop short of the ankle, and the Grace Kelly headscarf, while men are reviving the three-buttoned jacket and the perennially popular blazer.

Knitwear remains the most coteremporary of fashions, because it is comfortable, versatile and affordable. The spring knits range from pure cotton hand-knits selling at over a hundred pounds, down to the look of the moment at cheap and cheerful prices.

The most inexpensive way to shop is to buy a sweater that is meant for two. Couples are buying knits that both partners then wear. Swapping around cardigans and sweaters is fun, not just for the young, and it gives a whole new meaning to the classic twin-set.



Above left: preppy style - HER creamy cotton cable-knit sweater, £85, over a pastel pale blue cotton polo shirt, £25. Call-length pleated linen skirt, £55, all by Ralph Lauren. Necklace: Liberty, Regent Street, W1. Cotton polo shirt, £50, tartan cardigan with navy trim, £134. Cotton polo shirt, £50, tartan cravat and navy trousers, £42. All from Ralph Lauren, 143 New Bond Street, London, W1. Glasses: £30 from Mulberry Company, 11-12 Gees Court, W1.

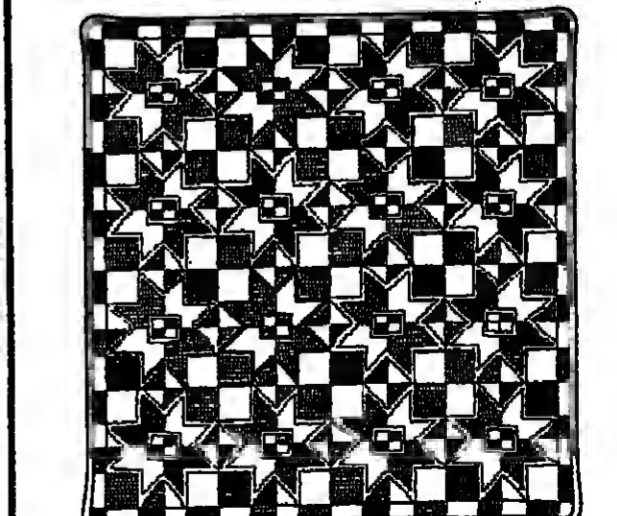
Above: last of Empire - HER sleeveless knitted cotton tunic, £148 over a silky skirt with transparent chiffon, £35. Soft straw hat, £22.50. Lace scarf, £9.50, all from Whistles, St Christopher's Place, London W1, and branches. HIS cotton knit 'Higgins' cardigan, £55. Abstract print cotton shirt £55. Cotton drill trousers, £49, tortoiseshell frame glasses, from a selection at Paul Smith, 43-44 Floral Street, WC2, Avery Row, W1 and Nottingham.

Left: Matejot stripes - HER elongated navy and white acrylic cardigan, double-breasted, £15.99. Circular navy chiffon double layer skirt, £32.99, both from Principles branches nationwide and in Debenhams, Oxford Street W.1. Soft straw hat £22.50, white patent wedge shoes, £65, both from Whistles, St Christopher's Place and branches. HIS double-breasted navy cardigan 50% wool £39.99, red cotton polo shirt, £10.99. Blue madras-checked pleat front trousers, polyester cotton, £22.99, all from branches of Principles. White lace up shoes, £29.99 from Next for Men, South Molton Street and branches.

Make-up: Ruth Sheldon. Hair: Peter Forrester for Daniel Galvin. Photographs by Nick Briggs

A NEW TAPESTRY BY KAFFE FASSETT

Star patterns have often featured in Kaffe Fassett's knitting and fabric designs and in his new tapestry he paints them in the weathered pastels, flaking greys and dusty pinks found in Italian frescos and Mediterranean tiles. He is an undisputed master of subtle colouring and in this new tapestry his colours look as if faded by the sun.



'Fresco Star' measures 15" x 15" and is worked in simple half-cross stitch. It is printed in the full eleven colours: Pale lemon, silver grey, marble rust, a powder and a sky blue, mustard, lime, storm blue, faded plum, pale peach and ivory. Printed on 10 holes to the inch doubleweave canvas the kit comes complete with all the required yarns from the Appleton tapestry range, needle and instructions. All for £17.95 including postage and packing. Use FREEPOST - No stamp needed.

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Pop music is not the only world where the "Young Ones" are pushing 40. In fashion, where being new is an article of faith, designers hang on to their youth until the tag defies the Trades Descriptions Act. At least, they do in Britain. Here "young designer" is a generic term to describe high fashion clothes; the brave few admitting to maturity become "established designers". That suggests that as the creative juices run dry, they have left whacky fun clothes behind. Other fashion capitals do it differently. In Milan, Paris, and New York, designers are designers - good or bad - and the internationally known names have vintage and novelty seasons. No one has ever described Gianni Versace as a "young

seductive evening dress; Giorgio Armani for the tender tailoring of his softly-waisted jackets; Jean Muir for her impeccably-cut pepinums. There are other designers who deserve recognition, but few are British. In our urge to encourage free, creative design, we have brought up a generation of fashion designers who cannot execute their ideas. Fashion has never been about designs scribbled on a sketch pad, but always about the painstaking ability to carry through the concept. In the era of oversize and wild prints, of punk's torn shreds and androgynous images, designers could get by on style rather than substance. Fit and cut have become fashion's new credos, and that sorts out the men from the "young" boys.

Vertical text on the right margin containing various small notices and advertisements.

FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

US NOTEBOOK

Economic growth consensus in doubt

The rise of 0.7 per cent in the index of leading indicators in February has given new heart to the optimistic "consensus" economists who have now swung back to their forecast of 4 per cent real gross national product growth in 1986 and a consequent end to the recent rise in bond prices.

- Real GNP rose by 2.2 per cent during the year and by 0.7 per cent in the fourth quarter which, according to consensus thinking, should have reversed the climax of a strong second half. Nothing of the sort occurred.

We already know a great deal about what happened in February. There was widespread evidence of deflation including: - A fall of 0.4 per cent in consumer prices.

Oil fall likely to lift world economy 'substantially'

By David Smith, Economics Correspondent.

The world economy is likely to receive a substantial boost from the 60 per cent slide in oil prices since last year.

The Paris-based organization is carrying out a series of simulations on the impact of lower oil prices, to be published in June.

However, the speed of the oil price fall and the fact that other things have not been equal, can change these effects considerably.

A falling dollar means that, in local currency terms, the effective fall in oil prices is even more pronounced than the drop in world prices.

dollar has fallen by 25 per cent on average since last autumn, converting a 60 per cent fall in the dollar price to a 70 per cent decline in local currency terms.

Britain has not benefited much from this, the pound's value against the dollar is only slightly above its level before oil prices began to tumble.

\$5 a barrel' warning

By Our Economics Correspondent

Abu Dhabi (AP-Dow Jones) - The United Arab Emirates oil minister, Dr Mana Saeed al Otaiba, gave a warning yesterday that oil prices would drop to \$5 a barrel in the absence of cooperation among oil producers.

Dr Otaiba said that the April 15 Opec conference in Geneva should be postponed unless advance contacts among all oil producers guarantee it would be successful in stabilizing the world oil market.

Japan, are the main beneficiaries. Some countries have introduced higher oil taxes in recent months.

However, as long as this implies a delay, rather than complete loss of the inflationary benefits of lower oil prices, this is not a serious problem.

Pensions bonus for Lawson

By Our Economics Editor

The Chancellor stands to gain four times as much revenue as his forecast suggests from the reduction in pension fund surpluses, according to post-Budget calculations by the Loodoo Business School.

These suggest that the extra tax paid in 1987-88 will be as much as £510 million, compared with Treasury forecasts of £124 million, and that this will rise to £1.5 billion in 1989-90.

At the same time the LBS calculates that the reduction in surpluses required by the Chancellor will cut employers' costs by the equivalent of a full percentage point of national insurance by the end of the decade.

Mr Nigel Lawson announced in the Budget that all pension funds would be obliged to eliminate any surplus above 5 per cent, either by cutting contributions, improving benefits or direct refunds.

The LBS believes that most will pursue the first option, which will result in more tax being paid by employers and employees as the contributions they deduct from taxable income are reduced.

The LBS calculates that pension funds' surpluses amount to about £50 billion. In its post-Budget forecast, the LBS raises slightly its growth projection for this year. Although its estimate of 2.6 per cent is still below the Chancellor's, it points out that it is more optimistic about 1987 in its forecast that growth will accelerate to 3.2 per cent.

Japan surplus at £2.6bn Tokyo, (AP-Dow Jones) - Japan posted an unadjusted current account surplus of \$3,941 million (about £2.6 billion) in February, compared with a \$2,539 million surplus a year earlier, the finance ministry announced yesterday.

The surplus followed a \$1,878 million surplus in January and a record \$6,805 million surplus in December. There was a \$1,299 million deficit in the country's overall balance of payments. This followed a \$5,152 million deficit in the previous month.

Tax cut hopes 'too optimistic'

By Our Economics Correspondent

The Chancellor will not be able to reduce the basic rate of income tax to 25p in the pound before the next General Election, DRI Europe, the economic forecaster, says in a report published today.

The report says hopes for a 25p basic rate, revealed in the Budget speech a fortnight ago, are based on over-optimistic economic assumptions.

DRI says the Treasury expects a 9.4 per cent increase in income from the spending taxes such as VAT and excise duties.

This is based on strong growth in consumers' expenditure - up 4 per cent in real terms - and a further shift in spending towards taxed items.

Without such a shift, growth in expenditure tax receipts would be just 7.75 per cent.

DRI takes issue with the Treasury both on the strength of projected spending and the likelihood of further big shifts in spending patterns.

The result is that the expenditure taxes could be £4 billion less than the Chancellor assumes.

After allowing for other receipts, on which DRI is slightly more optimistic than the Treasury, the net effect is to leave Mr Lawson £2 billion short of tax revenues in 1986-87.

This is the amount set aside for tax cuts in the Budget in a year's time.

The forecasters think that the £4.5 billion reserve will be sufficient to allow the Government to stay within its public spending target for 1986-87, but that the target will be exceeded to 1987-88.

The net result of the DRI projections is that the Chancellor will be able to cut taxes substantially only if he allows borrowing to rise above the targets contained in the medium-term financial strategy.

Guinness Peat in talks

By Our City Staff

Guinness Peat, the merchant bank, has confirmed that it has been talking to Henderson-Crosthwaite, the medium sized stockbroker, but says it is in no hurry to buy such a business.

Mr Alastair Morton, the chief executive of Guinness Peat, said last night: "We have had talks with Henderson-Crosthwaite and we are looking for smaller acquisitions with private clients' funds. But we are not in a hurry to spend our profits

from the Britannia Arrow sale. Why buy for cash at the top of the market?"

Speculation about an acquisition by Guinness Peat has been heightened by the £18 million profit it made after its abortive bid for Britannia Arrow, the £280 million financial services group.

Guinness Peat sold its 25 per cent stake in Britannia to Mr Robert Maxwell, the publisher, and MIM, the investment group headed by Mr David Stevens.

lius Beer US Dollar Fund, Loodoo and Manchester Group, Lyle Shipping, M Y Dart, Ocean Transport and Trading, Silkole Lubricants, Scottish Heritable Trust, A G Stanley, Sun Alliance and London Insurance, Sun Life Assurance Society.

THURSDAY - Interims: Acorn Computer Group, Burton Group, Druck Holdings, Merivale Moore, Finals: Ealing Electro-Optics, Empire Stores (Bradford), Ibetock Johnsen, Wm Morrison Supermarkets, Reckitt & Colman, Wayne Kerr, Weir Group.

FRIDAY - Interims: Save & Prosper Sterling Deposit Fund, Finals: Britannia Arrow Holdings, Chestnut Racecourse, International Investment Trust Co of Jersey (dividend), North British Canadian Investment Company, E T Sutherland and Son.

Today - Interims: Moemos (third quarter), Finals: Arcoelectric (Holdings), Atlantic Computers, Brammer, CCA Galleries, Emess Lighting, Fitch & Company Design Consultants, Laurence Gould and Company, Kleinwort, Benson Gift Fund, Kleinwort, Benson Sterling Asset Fund, Stanley Miller Holdings, Molins (amended), Rotaflex, Slough Estates.

TOMORROW - Interims: A Beckman, Britannia Security Group, Floyd Oil Participations, Portland Holdings, TR City of London Trust, Finals: Abbey Life Group, Alexandra Workwear, AMEC, Associated British Ports Holdings, BSG International, Buzil, Caparo Properties, Christie International, Costes Brothers, Elys (Wimbledon) Enterprises Oil, Executex Clothes, Guardian Royal Exchange, William Jacks, Liquiber Ju-

Offer for Imps may stay open

By Judith Huntley

The bitter and acrimonious battle for control of Imperial Group takes a step forward today as Hanson Trust's £2.5 billion offer is due to close.

The City is expecting Lord Hanson to extend his offer to coincide with that of the rival bidder, United Biscuits, whose final closing date is April 11. Hanson Trust could allow its bid to run until April 29.

Meanwhile, the advertising war between Hanson and United is being maintained in the newspapers. Hanson Trust told Imperial shareholders over the Easter weekend that its best and final offer was worth 26.6p a share more than that of its rival.

The difference in the value of the offers will be determined by the market in the next week or two.

Hanson's share and convertible offer is worth 36.9p a share against United Biscuit's 34.2p bid, which is backed by the Imperial board. Imperial's last price was 34.4p.

Hanson has just under 30 per cent of Imperial with United Biscuits having a 23 per cent stake. UB is expected to send a circular to Imperial shareholders this week, emphasizing the commercial prospects for a united Imps-UB company after last week's clearance for its bid from the Office of Fair Trading.

Such rate levels might not be seen this year, but it is likely that there will be further progress in that direction.

Maxwell Newton

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

Time to close the currency debate

On almost every issue that comes before the Cabinet, the Prime Minister has had the backing of her Chancellor; the nature of the annual spending battle, indeed, is that the two of them naturally tend to find themselves in rather lonely agreement. This is why the internal debate in Government on the European Monetary System - which by all accounts became quite heated - is of peculiar interest.

Not that the Cabinet, as a whole, is made up of ardent supporters of full membership of the fixed exchange rate mechanism of the EMS. Nor, however, is it stiff with dedicated opponents of this particular manifestation of the European Community's erratic progress towards integration.

It is time the issue was settled for the duration of this Parliament. The ability of the foreign exchange markets to drum up an EMS entry scare on the slightest pretext adds an unnecessary complication to the business of managing sterling in line with the Government's counter-inflationary strategy.

What seems to have happened in the EMS debate is that the long-term case for entry has been conceded. This is an important step, for even though the Thatcher Government was theoretically committed to eventual membership from the very beginning, it was philosophically opposed to entry for some years.

This tentative conversion to the principle of membership only partly depends on the history of the EMS itself while the system has plainly held together better - and with fewer realignments of currencies - than appeared likely on its birthday in early 1979.

It has brought about less economic convergence than was originally hoped. The deciding factor for Britain seems to have been the experience of life outside the EMS; first, as a country in danger of slipping into the second rank of a larger and more disparate European Community, but secondly and more importantly as an economy that has experienced much high real interest rates than was hoped.

This weighs strongly with the Prime Minister. It is not, however, an objection that is going to fade as the election approaches; so it makes little sense to pretend to be waiting for time to ripen, if this is now the overwhelming objection. The moment has therefore come to say whether she has ruled out membership before a new Parliament, and how the decision would be taken thereafter.

that all a fixed exchange rate does is to close up a safety valve, diverting economic pressures into more dangerous channels.

However, there has emerged something approaching a consensus that while membership of the EMS might well mean even greater volatility of interest rates, it might also permit the average level of interest rates to be lower.

Then, however, we come to the critical question of timing. The go-now school has two fears: first, that the Government may miss quite an agreeable pattern of exchange rates, in which the pound is low enough against the mark to allow British industry to compete, but not so low that a fixed exchange rate would exert no counter-inflationary discipline.

More subtly, there are those who fear that Britain may also miss the opportunity to negotiate with agreeable partners; in particular, a President of the Bundesbank ready to take up the additional burden of stabilizing the pound.

The wait-and-see school, however, fears the difficulty of an election campaign during the learning period of full membership. The EMS, it is argued, would create a bias against the election of a responsible government.

For the more likely it appeared that such a government might not be elected, the more the exchange rate would weaken; the more such a government would then be obliged to raise interest rates to keep the pound within EMS limits; and the more this would hamper its own chances of securing victory.

This is the kind of logic the foreign exchange markets have shown themselves able to confound with ease. And it must be pointed out that the period to which this particular danger applies is really quite short. More than a few months before the election, a falling exchange rate would oblige the Government to raise interest rates willy-nilly, for fear of imperiling its counter-inflation strategy; while a run on the pound only a matter of days before the election could easily be contained by co-ordinated intervention (and effectively blamed on the Opposition).

But there is no doubt that the EMS would provide a straitjacket, and that this could constrain the Government's freedom during an election campaign.

This weighs strongly with the Prime Minister. It is not, however, an objection that is going to fade as the election approaches; so it makes little sense to pretend to be waiting for time to ripen, if this is now the overwhelming objection. The moment has therefore come to say whether she has ruled out membership before a new Parliament, and how the decision would be taken thereafter.

Sarah Hogg Economics Editor

Arbitrageurs poised for big bang

By Carol Ferguson

There is a lot of mystique surrounding the activities of arbitrageurs. They have some big counters to play with on the international Monopoly board and few mergers take place without attracting their attention.

Not all are private individuals - many big securities houses have their arbitrage departments. But what all successful arbitrageurs have in common is that they are shrewd and astute operators who can have an important influence on the bidding process. It is now impossible to do a deal in the US without recognizing their role.

Mr Ivan Boesky, one of the best known of the arbitrageurs, defines risk arbitrage in his newly book Merger Mania. It is "the taking advantage of the disparity in value that exists between two different but related securities that are traded simultaneously in the same or different markets, or the disparity between the market price of a security and the cash price being offered".

Opportunities for arbitrage can arise in a variety of ways, but the growth in arbitrage springs from the quickening pace of mergers. Through thorough analysis of industries and companies, study of the management and knowledge of the stock market, the arbitrageur attempts to identify likely bid targets early on.

Risk arbitrage probably had its origins in the 1930s when there were two big opportunities for arbitrage. The reorganization of the US railways and the enforced divestment of subsidiaries of the public utilities both created price discrepancies in their respective shares which could be exploited by arbitrageurs.

The spate of mergers in the 1970s allowed their activities to grow and they are now believed to play a significant role in virtually every takeover.

Mr Boesky is careful to explain that he is not a corporate entrepreneur. The corporate entrepreneur will seek a particular outcome in a bid and will often take control of a company.

The arbitrageur is not interested in taking control. He does not care who wins - the only advantage he seeks is to make a profit out of the spread.

Many reasons have been given for the comparative lack of arbitrage in the British market. It is much smaller and less liquid than the US market. But Mr Boesky sees little profit in it mainly because there are so few spreads.

Mr Boesky says there is a less rigorous system of disclosure of information in Britain than in the US. The US Securities and Exchange Commission rules penalize heavily what he calls the selective dissemination of information. Our insider dealing legislation is less stringent.

This means that while it is possible to make a profit by buying the target company shares, there is no opportunity to lock in the spread, a necessary feature of true risk arbitrage.

The pension and other fund managers also are often reluctant to sell shares which are subject to a bid. They prefer to hold on in case there is a higher offer, fulfilling some of the functions of the arbitrageur themselves.

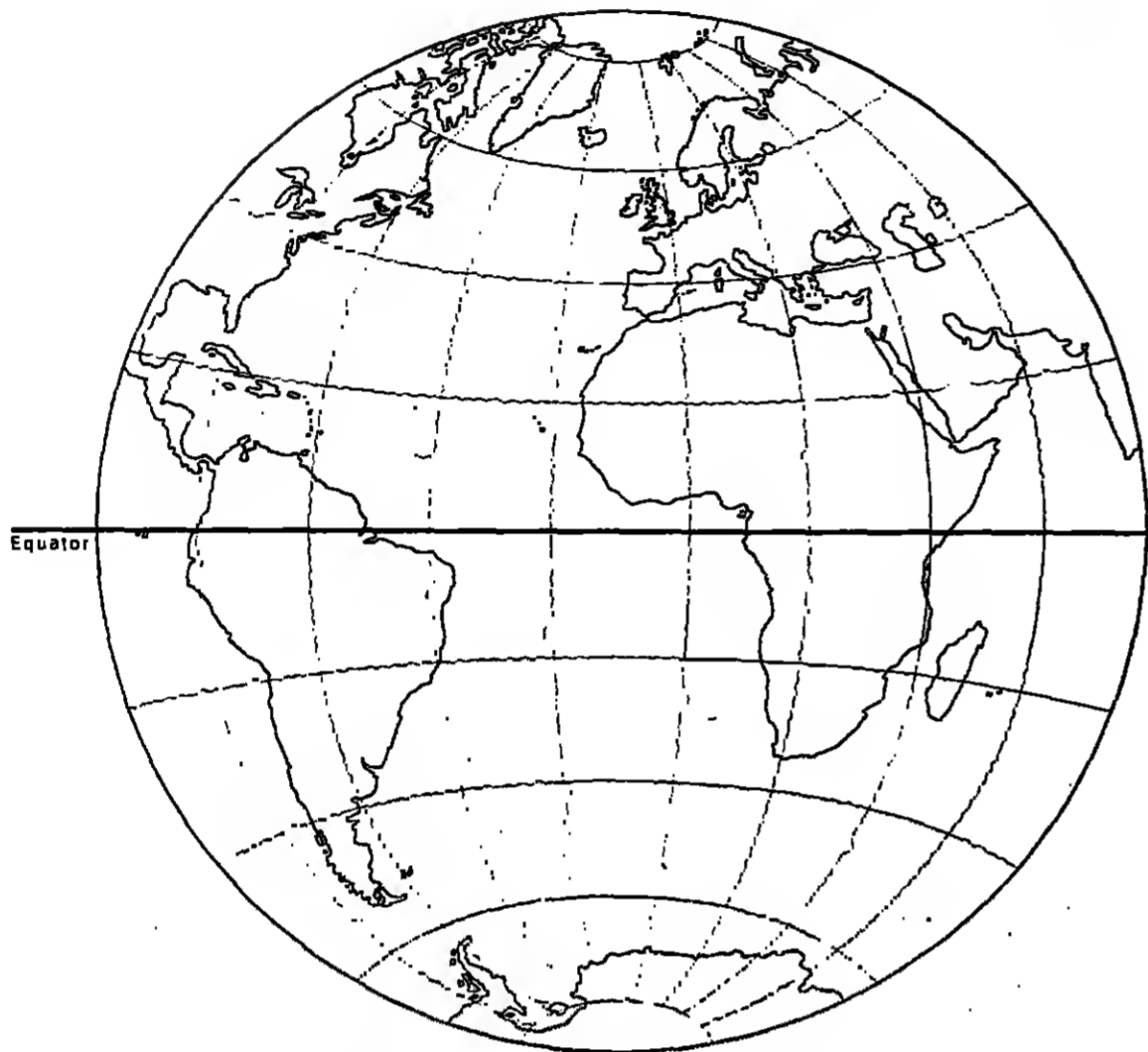
With the arrival of big bang, all this could change. More comprehensive regulation of the City should allow spreads to develop, creating more opportunities.

ONLY TAP FLY FROM HEATHROW DIRECT TO OPORTO. With Wednesday lunchtime, Thursday early evening, Saturday and Sunday afternoon direct Heathrow to Oporto services, it's little wonder TAP is the first choice in business travel to the North of Portugal.

Vertical text on the right edge of the page, including page number 17 and various small notices.

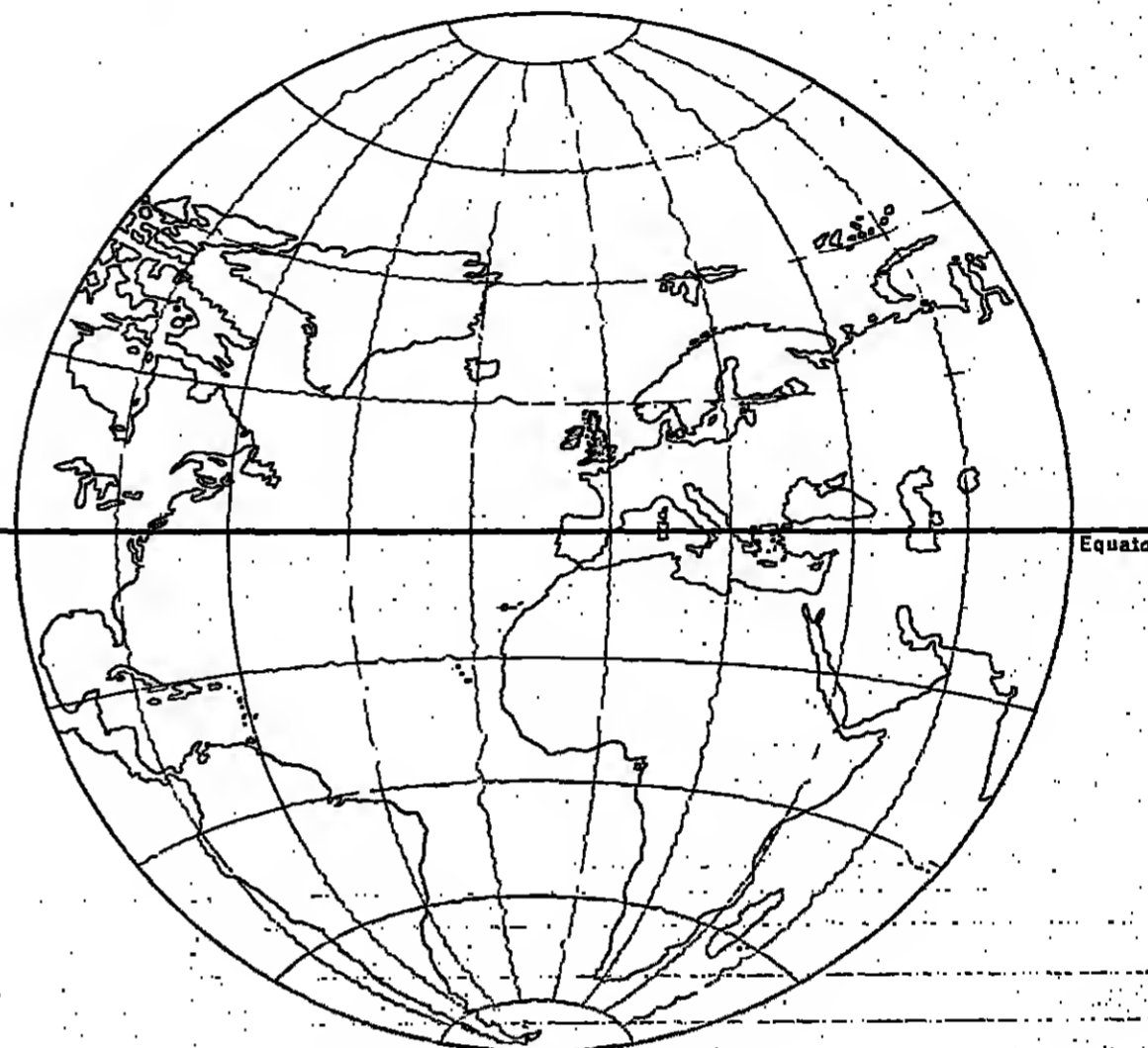
GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCEMENT

The proposed shift of the earth's axis.



BEFORE THE AXIAL SHIFT

(AVERAGE ANNUAL TEMPERATURE 10 DEGREES CELSIUS)

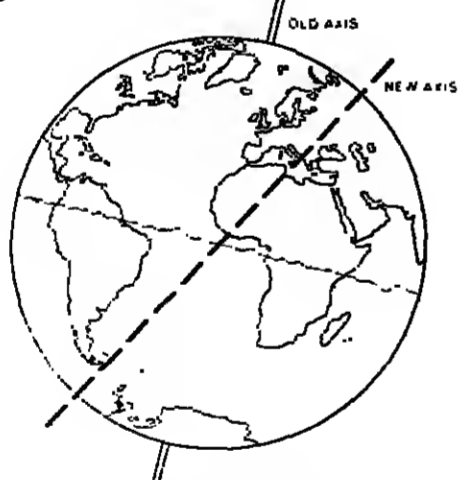


AFTER THE AXIAL SHIFT

(AVERAGE ANNUAL TEMPERATURE 25 DEGREES CELSIUS)

Following a review of national energy policy, the Government is to implement far-reaching strategic energy measures at 11.02am today.

The aim of these measures is to effect a shift in the earth's axis.



New geographical position for Britain.

The result will be that Britain will occupy a new geographical location just 10 degrees north of the equator. Manchester, for example, will enjoy the climate of Barbados.

Southern Africa will, in turn, become the new South Pole. Japan and parts of China, the new North Pole. While the polar icecaps themselves will melt to create two vast new temperate regions.

Summers in Britain will be 10 degrees warmer on average. With winter temperatures being maintained at a balmy 20 degrees celsius, there will be energy savings of an estimated £2 billion a year.

The English Channel will effectively become the Mediterranean, Northampton becomes Southampton, Somerset becomes Summerset.

Controlled electromagnetic charges.

The proposed repositioning of the earth's axis will be achieved by a series of three electromagnetic charges.

Three five hundred megaton electromagnets have been launched into the earth's orbit and are now circling the earth at a velocity of two orbits per hour.

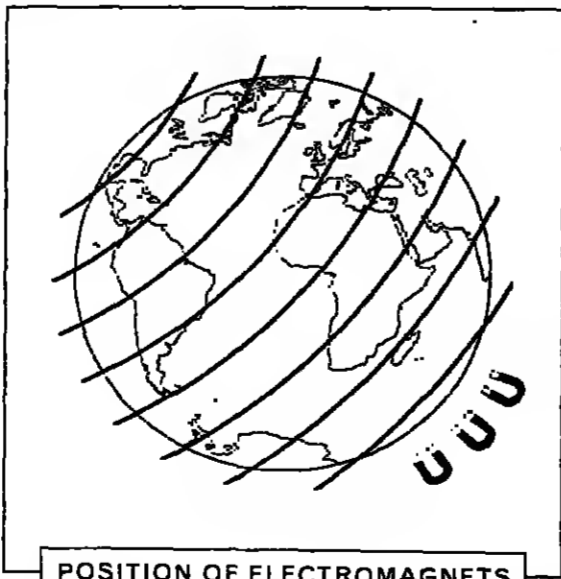
The electromagnetic charges will be activated today at 11.02, 11.14 and 11.29 Greenwich Meantime precisely.

The operation will be mounted by remote control from the Northallerton Orbital Tracking Station.

In certain areas, metallic household objects such as saucepans and breadbins may experience spasmodic displacement. Householders should remove all jewellery and keep clear of the kitchen.

On some routes, aeroplanes may be temporarily pulled off course. Holiday-makers travelling to Portugal and the South of France may have to settle for two weeks in Newcastle-on-Tyne.

Motor cars may find their steering affected by the shifting magnetic field. Drivers should pull over to the hard shoulder and beware of low flying motorcycles.



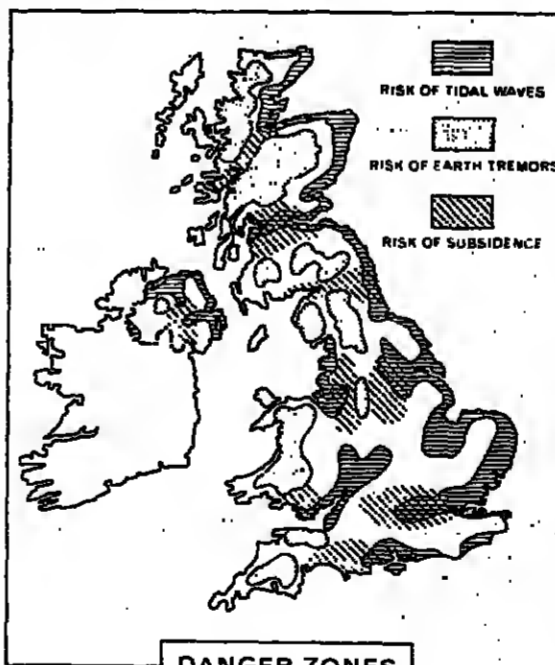
POSITION OF ELECTROMAGNETS

Tidal waves, due to the melting of the northern ice-cap, may be experienced in coastal regions. Emergency services have been placed on full alert.

Conditions for surfing, however, will be ideal.

Questions raised in the United Nations.

A rather extraordinary general meeting of the United Nations Security Council was called last night to consider implications for member states— notably Chile, or rather Chilly, and what will become the Polar Republic of China.



DANGER ZONES

British delegates pointed out that Britain was long overdue some good weather and energy savings. Anyway, why shouldn't someone else suffer for a change?

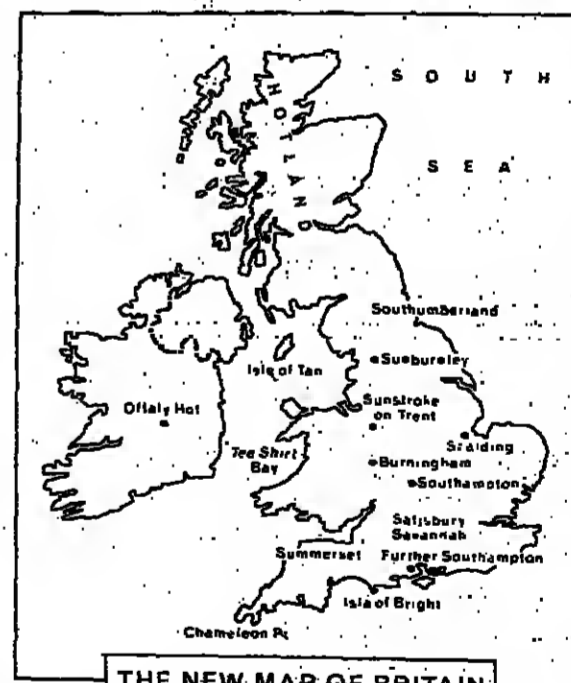
Risk of marital upheaval.

The shift, once achieved, could bring some risk of marital upheaval as the moon will henceforth be in Saturn when it should be in Mars with the result that perfectly-matched Sagittarians and Librans will become disastrously incompatible Leos and Cancers.

After the axial shift, Britain will enter a new time zone. Clocks should accord-

ingly be put back one hour 23 minutes precisely.

The indications are that persons locked in amatory embrace between 11am and 11.30am will feel the earth move.



THE NEW MAP OF BRITAIN

Wait a moment. Aren't we being just a teeny weeny bit hasty?

Surely we can make this clammy old-isle of ours a more hospitable place to live without recourse to such stringent measures.

The Energy Efficiency Office has outlined an array of schemes to save our monery and make our climate feel positively Mediterranean.

Draught proofing, pipe lagging and loft insulation to name but three.

There are free Monery Information Packs, free advice, even free telephone calls on the special Monery Hotline-0800 234800.

Methods admittedly less earth-shattering than shifting the earth's axis. But equally effective and, may we suggest, just a touch more practical.

April fuel.

سکتا اس ایچ

GILT-EDGED

Bonds push Fed to rate cuts

The power struggle at the United States Federal Reserve between the chairman, Mr Paul Volcker and the vice-chairman, Mr Preston Martin, apparently ended in victory for Mr Volcker. The rate-cutting Mr Martin resigned.

The issue, should bond traders need reminding, was over the pace of rate cuts and the appropriate level for rates. Mr Martin wanted cuts almost immediately, if not sooner, while Mr Volcker favoured a more gradualist approach.

As ever, the Fed will be concerned to avoid bond yield inversion, a possibility for the yield curve, which lurks just around the corner when as now, the discount rate equals the cost of two-year money.

Some confusion at the Fed, however, between ends and means is also discernible. Last week's note auctions went well, with yields on the four-year issue averaging 6.84 per cent, the lowest since August 1977.

which contributed notably to traders' confidence. But an ambivalent policy stance is not confined to the Fed alone. The Bank of England has gone out of its way to stress that the next set of rate cuts will be delayed until the middle of this month.

But to little avail, judging by traders' improving expectations over the week. Initial sea of prices slumped, provoked a slight hiccup in prices. Long yields rose briefly by about 14 basis points to about 9.26 per cent.

In Tokyo, the Bank of Japan faced extreme pressure from the industrial lobby to cut the official discount rate again, as the dollar slumped towards record lows.

Mr Anthony Solomon, former chairman of the Federal Reserve, condemned the conduct of West German economic policy, describing fiscal and monetary policy as far too tight.

But like the Japanese, the West Germans will be reluctant to reflate. The movement in West German money rates, most notably in one-month ones, suggests that the pace of German GNP growth is accelerating anyway because of measures in the pipeline.

None the less, the manifest caution of central banks is justified by the tricky times they glimpse ahead. Presumably they are not keen to see the entire Western credit system vanish in a puff of stock market speculation.

inflation and declining corporate profits. The West Germans are uncomfortably aware that the bias in their industrial base is towards capital goods whereas consumers, not industrial investment, are likely to feel the first effects of cheaper oil and lower inflation.

Such a rearrangement of economic variables points, in theory, towards a worsening in the United States balance of payments trends towards the end of this year and perhaps panic moves to raise US rates to protect the dollar.

The bond market rally looks set to continue for many more months, and London seems bound to take part fully, coverbilities and FOTRA stocks are still zooming ahead.

The bears now have but one thought: *Scribe tibi gregis hunc, et fortis crede bonumque.* But there is a lot more to the central banks' approach to the feast than just an intuitive dislike of jollification.

Christopher Dann Orion Royal Bank

Healthy outlook for new issues

March and April are traditionally the peak for new issues of the USM as calendar year-end companies come to the market with the historic profits tucked under their belts.

But this month has been noticeably quieter than previous years with only four new issues, BPP Holdings, Meaview Swain, Wardell Roberts and Spice.

This raises the question of whether the very rapid growth in the USM has come to an end, or whether this is a temporary blip.

The difficult conditions prevailing last year have led to companies being introduced to the market on lower ratings.

The costs of an issue have risen dramatically in two years and the leading sponsoring houses now increasingly limit their introductions to companies above a certain size.

Companes also sometimes seek a USM quotation to provide a market for their shares to make share incentive schemes to employees more attractive.

For these reasons, City followers of the USM believe that the new issue market will continue at a healthy level over the next few years, even though the numbers may not

regain the levels seen in the last three years. Farewell this week to one of the most dazzling USM successes in the last two years, Addison Page.

The company was born from a merger just over a year ago of the executive recruitment agency Michael Page Partnership and the corporate design and financial communications consultancy Addison Communications.

The first full-year figures showed an advance to pretax profits of 50 per cent.

The group hopes to repeat its success with another merger - to the recently floated Chetwynd & Streets.

To allow Addison to move up to the full market, Chetwynd is issuing shares for Addison, although Addison Page will comprise 70 per cent of the new company.

This merger will unite two financial public relations companies, Streets Financial and

Financial Strategy, making it by far the largest group specializing in financial communications.

Profits of the combined group for 1986 should reach £5.4 million, giving earnings per share of 8.5p.

The shares have been dull over the last 12 months along with the entire agency sector but are now on a reasonable price/earnings ratio of 16 times and should show further appreciation this year.

KLP, the first sales promotions company on the USM, held its annual meeting this week and announced a small acquisition of a 51 per cent holding in a Canadian sales promotion company.

The group is building up its international business and this small step is only the first of a number of moves which the directors are hoping to announce this year.

Isabel Unsworth

UNLISTED SECURITIES

Table with multiple columns: Capitalisation, Company, Price, Dividend, etc. Lists various unlisted securities and their market data.

ALBRIGHT & WILSON 1985 RESULTS

Table showing 1985 and 1984 results for Albright & Wilson. Columns include Sales, Trading profit, Capital expenditure, Net capital employed, Return on capital, and Number of employees.

These figures relate to the Group managed by Albright & Wilson, including companies owned directly by Tenneco. The 1985 results include two acquisitions, the Industrial Chemicals Group of Mobil Mining and Minerals in the USA from May 1985 and Tensia Surfact in Spain for the whole year.

Copies of the Review of the Year may be obtained from Corporate Public Relations Department at the address given below.

ALBRIGHT & WILSON LTD International in Chemicals 1 Knightsbridge Green, London SW1X 7QD.

Conditions improve in S Africa

By Jeremy Warner Business Correspondent Conditions for black African workers employed by British companies operating in South Africa improved considerably during the 12 months to the end of June 1985, according to a report from the Department of Trade and Industry.

The numbers paid below recognized minimum levels was halved and there was evidence of increased dealings with South Africa's emerging trade unions.

There was also a growing commitment to training, education and community projects and increased provision of fringe benefits.

These are the main findings of the voluntary code of conduct for companies with interests in South Africa published by the DIT.

Reports were received from most of companies with interests in South Africa. Only three companies, known or believed to have South African subsidiaries employing more than 20 blacks, failed to report.

The three were Siebe, the safety products and engineering group, Sun Alliance and London Insurance, and Trusthouse Forte.

But fewer than a third have full desegregation and even desegregation of the workplace was not yet universal.

Copies of the reports and of the DIT's analysis and summary have been placed in the library of the House of Lords and the House of Commons. They may also be inspected at the Department's library.

BASE LENDING RATES ABN 12 1/4% Adam & Company 11 1/4% BCCI 11 1/4% Citibank Savings 12 1/4% Consolidated Crd 12 1/4% Continental Trust 11 1/4% Co-operative Bank 11 1/4% C. Hoare & Co 11 1/4% Lloyds Bank 11 1/4% Nat Westminster 11 1/4% Royal Bank of Scotland 11 1/4% TSB 11 1/4% Citibank NA 11 1/4%

First National Securities Base rate First National Securities Limited announces that with effect from 1st April 1986 its base rate for lending will be 12 1/2%.

Kleinwort Benson With effect from 1st April 1986 the Kleinwort, Benson Limited mortgage rate will be 12.5% per annum, and the personal loan base rate will be 11.5% per annum. Grieverson Grant and Co. From Tuesday 1st April 1986 we shall be at PO Box 560 20 Fenchurch Street London EC3P 3DB Telephone: 01-623 8000

MORTGAGE RATE CHANGE GOOD NEWS FOR BORROWERS The YORKSHIRE BUILDING SOCIETY is pleased to announce a reduction in the rates of interest payable on existing mortgages. The reduction will be effective from 1 April, 1986. ANNUAL REVIEW OF PAYMENTS Under the Society's system of Annual Review, there will be no change in monthly payments. The next Annual Review will be in January, 1987, when a new monthly payment will be notified to borrowers, taking into account rate changes during 1986 and the recent alteration in the basic rate of income tax. When you want a better service YORKSHIRE Building Society Has the key

Croda 1985 results Unaudited 1985 £000 1984 £000 Turnover 407,151 383,485 Profit before taxation 22,875 20,046 Profit after taxation 14,101 11,511 Extraordinary items after taxation 2,275 2,989 Attributable profit 11,826 8,297 Ordinary dividends (net) Proposed final dividend (payable 1 July 1986) 4.00 4.00 Making total for the year 7.00 7.00 Croda International Plc Cowick Hat South Gooles North Humberdale DN14 9AA Tel 0405 860951 Telex 576033

THE ACTION BANK · THE ACTION BANK · THE ACTION BANK · THE ACTION BANK

NatWest in 1985

“Facing change from a position of strength”

We are determined to maintain our position as a leading international financial services organisation. In 1985 we took significant steps to strengthen our position, and responded positively to the demands of the highly competitive and rapidly changing markets in which we operate.

Strength in the High Street

In 1985 financial institutions of all types competed aggressively for personal customer business. The strength of our customer base and branch network, together with our commitment to provide a high standard of service in all our dealings with customers, enabled us to maintain our leading position.

In December we introduced 'No Charge' banking for our five million personal customers. We are attracting a substantial number of new accounts.

We started Saturday banking in May and by the end of the year we were open for business at 190 locations. The style of Saturday banking is different from

our normal weekday operations, and the combination of the latest technology and a secure, yet friendly open plan environment will become an increasing feature throughout our branch network and not just on Saturdays.

During 1985 we added 500 automated teller machines to our network of Servicetills and Rapid Cash Tills, which we believe to be the largest independent network in the world.

The NatWest Saver Service is made up of a variety of products, each of which is targeted at a specific segment of our diverse customer base.

The Special Reserve Account was introduced in January 1985, attracting new customers as well as encouraging existing ones to save with us. In the younger savings market, our 'Piggy' accounts go from strength to strength with the millionth ceramic pig being issued in 1985.

We are the largest provider of mortgage finance amongst the UK banks, and National Westminster Home Loans saw another year of growth with new advances of over £850 million and a total mortgage book approaching £3,400 million.

Strength for Business

For the UK business community, 1985 was a year of modest economic improvement. We saw continuing growth in our lending to all sectors, which at the end of 1985 exceeded £12 billion.

The Chairman, Lord Boardman, comments:

"Excellent results were again achieved in 1985. Wherever we operate, at home and abroad, we are strengthening relationships with our customers by adapting our business to meet their changing needs.

The world's financial markets are changing rapidly. Competition in 1985 remained strong and will intensify in 1986. Deregulation is a potent catalyst for change. Traditional barriers in the financial services sector are being dismantled, and this will have an impact both upon the personal and corporate sectors of our business. Technology is speeding the process of change through faster

We continue to support the small business sector very strongly with total lending approaching £6 billion. Our Business Development Loan Scheme continues to be popular. In 1985, 43,000 loans were agreed involving over £573 million.

Our Capital Loan Scheme helps to meet the need for venture capital, and equity finance is also available through County Bank Development Capital.

We are leaders in the growing franchise market where our lending now exceeds £29 million.

Our commitment to the agricultural sector is demonstrated by our lending which exceeds £13 billion.

As part of our commitment to provide a high standard of service, we are establishing over 100 Corporate Banking Centres with expert staff, providing the specialist attention and advice required by our medium and large corporate customers.

Strength in Changing World Markets

As one of the world's leading international banks, we are poised to take full advantage of changing world markets.

Our controlled and cautious stance on sovereign debt has resulted in a relatively low exposure to the major problem situations.

The hallmark of NatWest remains our ability to provide a tailor-made service to our customers and we have a relationship with most of the world's top corporate institutions. We have a significant operating base in the USA, and in 1985 NatWest USA achieved a 34% increase in pre-tax income to reach a record US \$87.9 million.

Innovation has been the keynote of our foreign exchange and money market operations, with new financial instruments such as interest/currency rate swaps, options and future rate agreements finding favour with our customers.

communications and is also enabling us to contain costs and improve efficiency.

Financial Highlights 1985

| | |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| Pre-tax profits | £804 million |
| Total assets | £72,000 million |
| Deposits | £64,800 million |
| Advances | £53,500 million |

The Annual Report and Accounts may be obtained from the Secretary, National Westminster Bank PLC, 41 Lothbury, London EC2P 2BP.

On the economic front, the international recovery proved more durable than many expected. 1985 was the third consecutive year of sustained growth with the United Kingdom economy enjoying faster growth than most other major developed countries.

Yet a number of problems from past years are still unresolved, particularly the high unemployment in many countries, the international debt situation and the increasing threat of protectionism. There have recently been welcome signs of international co-operation to deal with these issues but much remains to be done before more

We are proud of the reputation we have earned in project finance, and we played a leading role in the Channel Tunnel Group, successful contenders to build the fixed link across the English Channel.

In 1985, we expanded our international business to meet the growing needs of our customers in the Far East, Australia, Canada and Spain.

Strength in Capital Markets

We are well positioned to exploit the unique opportunities which deregulation will bring to the City of London. We have formed National Westminster Investment Bank (NWIB) which will combine the merchant banking skills of County Bank and the securities capability of Fielding Newson-Smith and County Bisgood.

NWIB will be capitalised at £300 million and will weld together the different capital markets disciplines into an effective and competitive force.

Strength in the Community

We take great pride and pleasure in the way we work with and for the communities where we operate. Our Community Services Programme includes help to charities, staff secondments and sponsorship. We supported over 5,000 organisations with more than £6 million.

Confidence in the Future

Looking back over 1985, we derive a great deal of satisfaction from the progress and achievements of National Westminster Bank Group.

We have harnessed the forces of change to work for the Group's benefit and have laid the foundations for our future prosperity.

We do not underestimate the tasks before us but in our traditional strengths, stability and consistency of performance, we have the qualities that will enable us to seize the opportunities ahead.

settled trading and banking relationships can be re-established.

The leading British banks are one of the few sectors of the UK economy which face intense world competition and yet at the same time rank close to the top of the international league table. In achieving this, they contribute very substantially to the nation's invisible earnings.

The rapid changes that are taking place in the financial sector make exceptional demands upon those who have to provide a wide range of services and quickly adapt to new techniques. Our very successful year was made possible by the efforts of our staff and I take this opportunity to thank them.

THE TIMES Portfolio

From your portfolio card check your eight share price movements. Add them up to give you your overall total. Check this against the daily dividend figure published on this page. If it matches you have won outright or a share of the total daily prize money stated. If you are a winner follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. You must always have your card available when claiming.

Table with columns: No., Company, Price, Change, Gross, Div, Div %.

INDUSTRIALS A-D

Table with columns: No., Company, Price, Change, Gross, Div, Div %.

BRITISH FUNDS

Table with columns: No., Company, Price, Change, Gross, Div, Div %.

SHORTS (Under Five Years)

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STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES Capitalization and week's change

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings begin today. Dealings end April 11. Contango Day April 14. Settlement Day, April 21. Forward Bargains are permitted on two previous days

BREWERIES

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BUILDINGS AND ROADS

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FINANCE AND LAND

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CHEMICALS, PLASTICS

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CINEMAS AND TV

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DRAPERY AND STORES

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INDUSTRIALS A-D

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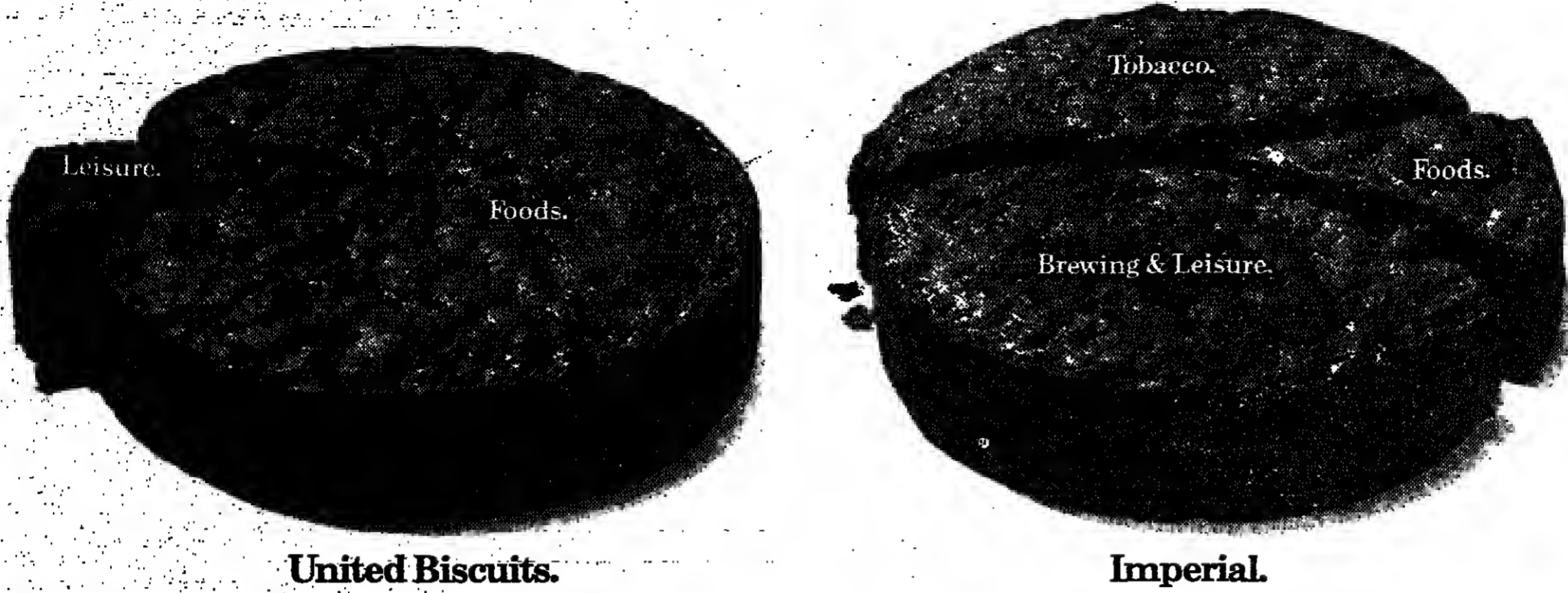
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April 1st

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United Imperial

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SOURCES: UB FOODS 92%, LEISURE 8% UNAUDITED TRADING PROFIT OF £122.7M FOR 52 WEEKS ENDED 28TH DECEMBER 1985 EXTRACTED FROM THE PRELIMINARY RESULTS. IMPERIAL FOODS 15%, BREWING AND LEISURE 43%, TOBACCO 42% OPERATING PROFITS OF £300.0M ACCORDING TO 1986 PROFIT FORECAST. UNITED IMPERIAL FOODS 37%, BREWING AND LEISURE 33%, TOBACCO 30%, BASED ON COMBINED TRADING AND OPERATING PROFITS FOR THE PERIODS STATED.

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The great data date is nigh

By William Jacot

There may be more than 250 shopping days until Christmas but there is only little over a month left in which to register under the Data Protection Act.

So far about 16,000 systems have been entered on the Data Protection Register, although up to 300,000 computerized systems are expected to need registration.

The sluggish reaction in completing the registration forms may indicate more than just a widespread lethargy in business disciplines. To the someone running a small business with his or her eyes firmly in the foreground, there must be much else of higher priority to be done before the May 11 deadline.

But though there are many who say: "Yes, I know I will have to do something about it soon", there are more who still do not know of their corporate and individual responsibilities under the Act. Any business making use of computer systems should assume that the Act applies to it until proved otherwise.

Larger companies have tended to follow the guidelines suggested by the Registrar. Staff members have been appointed to act as coordinators for data-protection registration and surveys have been initiated to examine the data being held in

computer files, to assess the needs and contents of such data and to define their content for the Act.

There are two registration forms. Form A describes the activities of the company being registered and form B asks for details of the computer applications relevant to the Act. Companies have the option of filling in more than one of each form.

The decision can be a complex matter. A small company based in one location with one computer most probably requires one form A and one form B. A larger company with more than one location with a mushrooming growth of micros, might require one form A for every location with a cluster of form Bs, supporting every form A.

For the big international giant the numbers increase accordingly and are relative to the complexities of organization and data stage - but here another factor emerges. Section 21 of the Act provides the right of access to data stored on computer systems by individuals. In consequence, the systems must be so designed and registered that access may be possible, practicable and convenient within the time limits set.

This means that a big company must have its data so organized that the demand



of a W. J. Smith for information on whether data are held referring to him, can be met with the minimum disruption to the company's operations.

This is not necessarily a simple matter. Files must be designed, inquiry facilities provided and procedures and routines adopted so as to enable Mr Smith to be provided with both the answer he wants and a copy of the information held on him.

He could, of course, make his inquiry in Edinburgh of a company with branches throughout Britain and require a data search covering the breadth of the land. The growing use of network and other data communication facilities complicates the issue.

The fact that Section 21 with its provision for access does not come into effect until November 1987 should not be seen as a comfortable excuse for delay. Systems designed yesterday and registered today will still need to comply in 1987. The path out of this Time is short and the penalties for failure to comply with the Act are severe.

The author is chairman of the Association of Professional Computer Consultants

The phantom reappears

The phantom of the computer hacker raised its head again last week to cause more than mild concern at the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Centre in Swansea. The computer experts at the centre who have for long suffered public criticism about inefficiencies found themselves on the rack again, this time not of their making.

After months of silence the British hacker was a principal talking point among nervous computer security controllers.

The catalyst to all the debate was an allegation in the magazine *Business* that home computer buff-turned-hackers were making thousands of pounds by breaching the security of the computer in Swansea and erasing the endorsement points on driving licences. The retail price for this service, the magazine claimed, was £100 a point so the laundering of a licence whose owner had reached the limit before being banned - 12 points - would realize the inventive hacker's £1200.

The Department of Transport immediately denied the allegations. It assured us that the licence computer was not on a public network, that it was remotely connected to four outside terminals but that these lines were secure and could carry instructions out of the computer system only - not into it. The Swansea computer experts began an investigation.

Whatever the outcome of the Swansea investigation, it has focussed attention once more on a problem which most companies have refused to recognize as a danger. The growth of the microcomputer has stimulated youth to dabble in all areas of computers. They have written and tested their own software, devised new system designs and tried to test their ingenuity against companies' computer systems.

That was the reasoning behind the birth of hacking which spread so rapidly in the US because of the explosive growth of sophisticated home computers, accompanying software, modems and cheap/free local phone calls.

However despite the furor which arose when the hackers first left their calling cards in the US and later in Britain, little damage was done - initially. Breach of a computer's security was embarrassing and provoked British Telecom, with the assistance of the police, to try to find the hacker alleged to have penetrated the Frosell computer and left a message in an

which specialize in the bonding of personal and computer systems have been covert about the lack of management expertise in creating secure computer systems and the reluctance of the same management to prosecute because it would be deemed to be an admission of failure.

The fraudulent misuse of computers is now a major criminal activity. In the US the FBI has stated that only one in 22,000 perpetrators of criminal offences with computers is ever prosecuted.

There are also those businessmen who are aware of the security risks they are running but seem prepared to take their chances and insure against electronic burglary instead of making the investment.

That back door is about to be closed. Insurance companies are now demanding a minimum, though high, level of security or they load the policy.

What the last week's discussion on computer security did highlight was that the hacker, inside or outside, was now prepared to take risks for commercial gain.

A recent example in the US illustrates the trend. Computer experts from the police and US Secret Service had to try to discover how seven schoolboy hackers found out secret Pentagon phone codes. The boys were also able to obtain computer codes that could be used to interfere with communications satellites.

They were arrested and charged in New Jersey with using their home computers to swap information about stolen credit card numbers and ways of making free international phone calls. The police seized the boys' computers and made a detailed search of the programme and memories.

THE WEEK

By Bill Johnstone

electronic mail box allocated to the Duke of Edinburgh. That case is due to come before the courts in two weeks' time.

The British police are certainly taking a dim view of hacking, using every method to encourage companies who have experienced a breach in computer security to report them and to prosecute. The hacker is only one of the culprits who can breach security. In many computer frauds an insider is involved. That often means that a fraud has taken place using the computer as a means to obtain goods or money.

Is the hacker/dishonest employee getting more daring and will companies reticently be forced into prosecution? Scare stories abound. A common claim is that British companies are losing £3,000 million a year through fraudulent activities. The insurance companies

Small firms wait on IBM

By Martin Banks

Many people are waiting to see what will happen now that IBM has announced its local area network technology. Not least among these are the many hundreds of small to medium-size companies that own a few personal computers and are wondering how to connect them.

The need to link them is, at face value, self-evident. An individual personal computer can be an extremely useful office tool but, in an increasing number of cases, there is more than one machine being used. When this happens, it is often ideal that the different computers should talk to one another.

As many companies have found to their cost, this is not as simple as it sounds. Simply connecting computers together with cables is no solution - what is required is a properly organized and controlled communications system that will accommodate the existing personal computers and, more importantly, any additional computers that may be bought.

It is these schemes that have been christened local area networks.

The observant will notice that the plural has been used here, and for a very specific reason. There are many

Differences in the software

methods of producing a local area network, and by and large they are all mutually incompatible.

There are differences in the physical implementation in many cases and even where the implementation is the same, there are often differences in the software.

The one significant advantage to users that comes from the IBM ring network scheme is the fact that it will be made by the largest computer company in the world, which has the potential to give customers the one thing they all want in networking - standardization.

Such a standard means the users do not have to understand the reason for their choice of network; they make it because it is the standard choice.

In much the same way, everyone buys a television set which works with BBC and ITV transmissions.

There is no direct criticism of other individual networking schemes here. It is just that they are all different, both from one another and IBM.

As with language, therefore, standardization in communication is important to computers. Everyone using the IBM network implementation goes a long way towards getting everybody speaking the same language. The rest of the way will be delivered by the software and used on the network.

To an increasing extent a *de facto* standard seems to be appearing in the shape of the Novell Netware product. It is to be noted, for example, that IBM itself has endorsed Netware on the PC family.

The announcement of the IBM ring has not, so far, created a major jump in the purchase of personal computers. For a start, the circuits which go to make up the new network are only just being produced by Texas Instruments.

The computer manufacturers themselves, including IBM, have got to play around a little to find out how best to work with them. It will be the second half of this year before working systems appear in any quantity.

BT opts for a US opto partner

By Frank Brown

British Telecom is to compete in the potentially lucrative international market for optoelectronic components and devices used in optical fibre telecommunications and other areas of electronics - but in partnership with an American company.

Together with the US industrial conglomerate Du Pont, it is forming a joint venture company, BT and D Technologies, in the UK to develop, manufacture and market optoelectronic products. Optical fibres are destined to replace copper wires and cables as the means of transmitting communications and other electronic signals.

The market potential for optical fibre components worldwide is potentially enormous. Currently £350 million, it is expected to grow 30 per cent annually to more than £4 billion within 10 years.

Production will start next year and create 150 jobs by the end of 1987.

Initially BT & D Technology's two main markets will be the US and the UK. Customers will include manufacturers of fibre optic communication systems for public telephone, cable television and data services networks. It will also be a supplier to British Telecom which is in the process of converting its nationwide trunk network to optical fibre.

Another potentially large market will be industrial control where fibre optics offers the advantage of immunity from electrical interference and an ability to operate in hazardous areas cost effectively.

Du Pont is a diversified chemical, energy and specialty product company whose total sales exceeded £21 billion in 1985 - almost three times that of British Telecom. The BT & D deal is one of a number of international joint ventures in electronics Du Pont has undertaken in recent years, and is part of a strategy by which the American company hopes to boost its electronic sales from £700 million last year to £2 billion by 1990.

OK for desk-top links

By Geoff Wheelwright

IBM finally gave its stamp of approval last week to the growing market for products that link desk-top personal computers and large mainframe computer installations.

IBM has reached agreement with Dallas-based Sterling Software to sell a series of products which allow corporate computer users to transfer information from mainframe computer database systems to popular microcomputer software products such as Lotus 1-2-3 and dBase II. The software was originally developed by the London-based Informatics General Corporation which was recently acquired by Sterling.

The move brings together technologies which IBM has long kept relatively separate, and could bring about a new boost to the sales of micros. With IBM backing systems which allow the easy exchange of information between its large and small computer systems, many large companies can now consider more widespread use of micros as terminals to their mainframe



Ian Durrell, Sterling president

computers. The move comes at a time when IBM is talking more about "workstations" than PCs, indicating a move to bring the PC firmly into the traditional data-processing arena. The integration of these computer technologies could become crucial as IBM fights back against increasingly popular compatible computers from machines such as Olivetti and Compaq and IBM finds itself facing falling sales levels on its basic PC ranges of computers.

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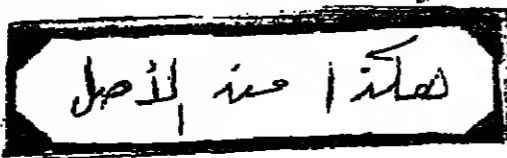
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COMPUTER HORIZONS/2

Priests spread hi-tech gospel

From Dean Murphy in Los Angeles

When a member of his congregation died recently, Reverend Barton Schaefer of the United Methodist Church in Williamsburg, Pa., was able to tap into his church computer and pull out a prepared obituary for the local newspaper and information on the man's will, safety deposit box and memorial wishes.



350 others who gathered in Los Angeles over the weekend, are evidence that the nation's religious community is turning more and more to computer technology in organizing their churches and parishes — and, ultimately, in spreading the word of God.

The move toward hi-tech religion, signalled by the use of computers to everything from Bible games during Sunday school to swift communication between parishes and their national headquarters during a crisis, was described by one theologian as a revolution in organized religion comparable to the advent of the printed Bible four centuries ago.

With the computer you can have all kinds of pastoral relationships where geography doesn't place any limits. David Lockhead, professor at Vancouver School of Theology at the University of British Columbia, said, "You can also do a lot of immediate conferencing with other people with the same interests or needs without any reference to time."

Opening up the world of Bach

By Nicholas Soames

Despite a reputation for being reluctant to acknowledge the 20th century, the world of classical music is today making overtures to the age of electronic mail by opening its own user group within British Telecom's Telecom Gold.

Called Artslink, it is the brainchild of the general manager of the European Community Chamber Orchestra, Ambrose Miller, who believes that electronic mail could prove a major benefit to the worlds of the theatre and classical music.

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The way to stay ahead in the City

By Edward Fennell

The sensational salaries being offered to top financial and commodity dealers in the run-up to the Big Bang has obscured the race, by City institutions to recruit high quality computing professionals to manage their information technology.

But in the long-term the process of deregulation may be remembered more for its impact on investment in information technology than for its payments of king's



Data is needed fast in the dealing offices of the City

JOB SCENE

rooms to sharp-witted youths. As John Skeritt, partner in charge of banking consultancy at Arthur Andersen, said recently: "Banks have finally recognized that the use of information technology is integral to their business. In the past the purchase of computing systems has just been nodded through. Now it is attracting a great deal of interest from the most senior people."

Data is needed fast in the dealing offices of the City. port systems will be fantastically expensive. There will also be a strong incentive to keep on buying the latest, and therefore least proven, systems because of their promise to give a competitive advantage in razor-sharp markets. Failure to keep up with technology could leave a dealer invitingly vulnerable, but investment in a wrong system would be equally damaging.

As a result it will be vital for banks and institutions to bring into their teams the top computing professionals to ensure they install systems that do the job properly. Unfortunately, there is little tradition in the City for the technical computing people in

are now rising sharply. Good telecommunications experience or computing science with strong mathematical background is what the City is keen to recruit. But above all they also need people with financial acumen — and that's where the problems are arising. The general feeling is that the institutions' attempts to attract people with knowledge of both the systems and finance have been unsuccessful.

Yet with new products appearing on the market almost every day it is vital for the institutions to be in a continual state of technological innovation in order to keep up with the Japanese and Americans.

Even more than office automation and telecommunications, the field that may be transformed most radically by deregulation is dealing which, until recently, has been entirely a matter of instinct and feel for the market. But in certain quarters it is predicted confidently that artificial intelligence will soon have a major impact on dealing.

Once that happens the ascendancy of the financially informed technocrat will be assured. Whether in a consultancy capacity, in a software house, or on the staff of banks and brokers, the City of London needs top calibre computer executives if it is to retain its pre-eminence.

Mr Miller proved the efficacy of the electronic mail system when on tour recently in France by solving out problems that had arisen on the timetabling of a future tour in Germany — all through his portable computer and modem.

Specialist systems that purport to know all

By Russell Jones

Commercial implementations of personal computer-based expert systems — programs that purport to give the same type of advice as a human expert might — are beginning to arrive in numbers.

The replaced human expert could be an accountant or engineer or anyone with a definable pool of knowledge that can be formalized into a "knowledge base."

An expert system attempts to mimic the thought processes and actions of human experts. In the same way as a human expert asks questions and gives answers inferred from the evidence and previous experience available to him or her, so an expert system also engages in a dialogue with the user in order to determine the correct advice to give.

Human experts can, usually, explain their reasoning and justify advice and conclusions. And in the same way, an expert system should also be able to justify its conclusions, keeping all of its information or knowledge in a form that can be used for explanatory purposes.

The basic units of knowledge within an expert system are usually called rules and facts.

A boost for electro-mail

Today British Telecom is increasing the price of teletext messages, the modern replacement of the telegram, from £3.50 to £4 for up to 50 words. It is likely to give a further impetus to the electro-mail services, which can provide a similar service for far less.

Microlink, an electronic messaging service, says for example that its service costs £1.45 for 350 words. Subscribers type out the message on their computers and then transmit it to Microlink's central computer. Those sent by micro before 8 pm assure delivery by first post the next morning.

The European Investment Bank is to lend Philips 80 million European Currency Units (about £51 million) for a big investment programme into sub-micron technology, used in the production of the next generation of integrated circuits. The program is to be carried out by Philips and Siemens of West Germany.

The first type of integrated circuits in this generation will be a semiconductor static memory with a storage capacity of a million bits, one megabit a chip, to be placed on the market in 1989. One of the bank's main objectives is to promote the development of modern technology to strengthen west European competitiveness.

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COMPUTER BRIEFING

Embarrassed Israeli officials said last week they are investigating how a clerk gained access to Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir's computer and altered the text of a speech he was due to deliver.

Orna Koransky, 27, told the Israeli newspaper Haaretz that she and others rewrote parts of the speech as a joke. The changes gave the impression that Shamir, a right-wing nationalist, wanted to weaken his own Likud bloc. Aides discovered the changes minutes before Shamir was due to deliver the speech.

The future of videotext and electronic newspapers, looks uncertain at best in the US after the decision by two of the biggest newspaper chains to drop their experiments in the field.

Times Mirror Company and Knight-Ridder, two videotext pioneers, have both announced they are pulling out because of lack of demand from consumers. A reassessment of the industry now seems imminent. Five years ago, some media observers predicted the printed page electronic newspapers — the home delivery of news and information on computer or television screens.

John Akers, president and chief executive of IBM, is also to become chairman of the company from June 1.

Apple Computer has announced that second-quarter profits should be about \$22 million — over three times that for the same quarter last year. According to Apple's chairman, John Sculley, the company's gross margins will climb to record levels for the quarter. In a separate speech, Mr Sculley said that Apple was preparing for a "giant leap in technology" that would let it build desk-top computers many times more powerful than today's biggest mainframes.

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Leniently handicapped Amber Rambler can show elders way home

By Mandarin (Michael Phillips)

Amber Rambler, the improving young jumper that Harry Wharton has done so well with this season from his base in Middleham, is napped to win the Leeds Handicap Chase at Wetherby today and so record his fourth victory on the turf.

Comparing novices with seasoned campaigners such as Norton Cross and Kevinsfort is never easy, but my feeling is that the handicapper may have just under-rated Amber Rambler and let him in with a bright chance of winning yet again.

The nice thing about my selection is that he appears to be an amenable individual, who is easy to ride. When he won last time out at Doncaster he made all the running. The time before that he was ridden with much greater restraint

and not asked to go and win his race until the last fence had been jumped.

While conceding that Norton Cross, from Peter Easterby's in-form stable will be hard to beat, I still feel that Kevinsfort poses the main threat to Amber Rambler, always assuming that he jumps better than he did at Cheltenham last month when mistakes at the second and third last fences probably made all the difference between only finishing fifth in the Grand Annual Steeplechase, and being placed.

All the same, at a difference of 7lb, I think that Amber Rambler, for all his relative inexperience, has an excellent chance of winning today's prize, especially knowing that he has been laid out for this whereas Kevinsfort was embroiled in the thick of things at Cheltenham.

Singlecote looks the other good bet today on the Yorkshire course to win the Easingwold Novices' Hurdle over 2½ miles, a distance that he relishes. Having won by six lengths at Folkestone between being placed at Cheltenham, Sandown and Ascot, his form looks gilt-edged and certainly head and shoulders above that of his rivals this afternoon.



Mick Easterby, trainer of Amber Rambler

Insure to chase National double

From Our Irish Correspondent, Dublin

Insure, owned and trained by Pat Hughes and starting at odds of 10-1, came to the rescue of the bookmakers by upsetting a substantial gamble on Omerta in yesterday's Jameson Irish Grand National at Fairyhouse. The eight-year-old could now be regarded as one of the Aintree Grand Nationals.

In ground described by jockeys as "very dead", the race proved a triumph for the lightweights as there were only five finishers in a field of 15 and all of these came from the bottom of the handicap. The three English challengers, which included the favourite, Rightback Man, were all pulled up at the entrance to the straight when their chances of success had clearly gone.

For the greater part of the journey the jockeys, Eamonn and Skip carrying 12st, made a bold showing up front, alternating in the lead with The Elbow. As the field streamed down the hill from Ballyhack, Insure was clearly the only horse to move and he took over at the third last fence.

Thereafter there was only one challenger, Omerta, who had made some mistakes earlier on but was fighting back as they turned into the straight. Omerta now came under the stronger pressure and Insure had only to jump the last two fences to retain his lead, going away on the flat to win.

Hughes said afterwards: "I will declare him for the Grand National in the morning and if there is someone out there with enough money he can buy a runner with a chance."



Insure jumps the last fence on his way to victory in yesterday's Irish National

Hughes originally bought Insure for 14,500 guineas and passed him on to Claran Cochrane from whom he re-purchased the horse a few months ago. Yesterday's race was something of an advertisement for the four-mile National Hunt Chase at Cheltenham, for Insure was runner-up to Northern Bay in last year's reserved handicap. Omerta had won the race last month.

Earlier yesterday Barney Burnett had proved beyond doubt that he is the outstanding novice jockey in Ireland this season, even if he did not go to Cheltenham. He was reserved in the Jameson Gold Cup and, carrying top weight of 12 st, ran right away from two useful services, Weather The Storm and Field Conqueror.

Treble at Ledbury makes Dare the leading lady

By Brian Beal

Gayle Waring had a Grand National warm up at the Eighteen on Saturday, winning in style but beating very little in the process. By contrast, the four-year-old, who was ridden by Foolish Hero, at the same meeting, was by the narrowest of margins.

Gillian Minto kicked for home since the meeting, but Diana Niven on the 1994 Vaux finally winner, Loch Brandy, never let her get more than two lengths ahead and came upstage again at the second last. Loch Brandy went to the final fence with almost a length advantage, but Foolish Hero fought back courageously to get the verdict on the race.

Amazilia Harwood repeated her two successes of last week on Red Shah and Lavin Meet at the Gartah and S Berks, where Tim Underwood also had a double.

With her double at the Ledbury on Dawn Street, Champagne Peri and Bonnie Hue, Alison D'Arcy now tops the lady riders' table.

As Peter Greenall listed only two times on Bournemouth and one on Fighel, it is clear that the young leader is still Mike Felton, who won on Matt Murphy at the Vale of Aylesbury. A treble on the last three races at the Vale of Lame by Les Hudson seen him out in possession of the title.

The talking point at the Ascford Valley was not the successes, but the disappointing performance of Jean Campbell's well-fancied horses, Marks Methane and Corzin Light.

The well-known rider from the South West, who has a schoolgirl daughter, Tabitha, all set to follow in his footsteps. She qualified to ride only last Monday on her 15th birthday, but was in her best race, the members at the Cartstock, a gift from John Dunfee.

Today's fixtures

- Chase at Wetherby, 12.15: 2000-2100: 2200: 2300: 2400: 2500: 2600: 2700: 2800: 2900: 3000: 3100: 3200: 3300: 3400: 3500: 3600: 3700: 3800: 3900: 4000: 4100: 4200: 4300: 4400: 4500: 4600: 4700: 4800: 4900: 5000: 5100: 5200: 5300: 5400: 5500: 5600: 5700: 5800: 5900: 6000: 6100: 6200: 6300: 6400: 6500: 6600: 6700: 6800: 6900: 7000: 7100: 7200: 7300: 7400: 7500: 7600: 7700: 7800: 7900: 8000: 8100: 8200: 8300: 8400: 8500: 8600: 8700: 8800: 8900: 9000: 9100: 9200: 9300: 9400: 9500: 9600: 9700: 9800: 9900: 10000: 10100: 10200: 10300: 10400: 10500: 10600: 10700: 10800: 10900: 11000: 11100: 11200: 11300: 11400: 11500: 11600: 11700: 11800: 11900: 12000: 12100: 12200: 12300: 12400: 12500: 12600: 12700: 12800: 12900: 13000: 13100: 13200: 13300: 13400: 13500: 13600: 13700: 13800: 13900: 14000: 14100: 14200: 14300: 14400: 14500: 14600: 14700: 14800: 14900: 15000: 15100: 15200: 15300: 15400: 15500: 15600: 15700: 15800: 15900: 16000: 16100: 16200: 16300: 16400: 16500: 16600: 16700: 16800: 16900: 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Today's television and radio programmes

Edited by Jane Henderson and Peter Daville

BBC 1

- 8.00 Ceefax
8.50 Breakfast Time with Frank Bough and Selina Scott
9.20 Roland Rat's Easter Extravaganza

TV-AM

- 6.15 Good Morning Britain presented by Henry Kelly and Anneke Rice
7.30 The Saturday Club

ITV LONDON

- 9.25 Thames news headlines followed by Nature of Things
10.30 The All Electric

BBC 2

- 9.00 Ceefax
9.25 Start up your own Business An Open University investigation

CHANNEL 4

- 2.30 The Schooner An eight year old boy visiting elderly relatives

Radio 4

- On long wave VHF stereo variations at end of Radio 4
7.05 The Archers

Radio 3

- All programmes are on medium wave
7.05 Weather, 7.00 News
7.05 Morning Concert: J.C. Bach

Radio 2

- On medium wave. See Radio 1 for VHF
News on the hour. Headlines 5.30am, 6.30pm, 7.30 and 8.30

Radio 1

- On medium wave, except for VHF variations
News on the half-hour from 8.30am until 9.30am and at 12.00 midnight

WORLD SERVICE

- 6.00 Newsday 6.30 Rock Sound 7.00 News 7.29 Twenty-Four Hours 7.50 News

Joseph Horley and his parents BBC 1, at 9.30pm

Peter Daville

Peter Daville

BBC 2

- 9.00 Ceefax
9.25 Start up your own Business An Open University investigation

CHANNEL 4

- 2.30 The Schooner An eight year old boy visiting elderly relatives

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ENTERTAINMENTS

ART GALLERIES

- BARBARIC ART GALLERY, 41-43, Upper St, London EC2A 4DF
11.00-6.00pm

THEATRES

- ALBERT FINNEY, Theatres
ORPHANS, Theatres

CINEMAS

- ART GALLERY, 41-43, Upper St, London EC2A 4DF
11.00-6.00pm

CONCERTS

- ART GALLERY, 41-43, Upper St, London EC2A 4DF
11.00-6.00pm

OPERA & BALLET

- ART GALLERY, 41-43, Upper St, London EC2A 4DF
11.00-6.00pm

REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS

- GRANADA As London except...
LUNCHTIME As London except...
YORKSHIRE As London except...

ART GALLERIES
BARBARIC ART GALLERY, 41-43, Upper St, London EC2A 4DF
11.00-6.00pm

THEATRES
ALBERT FINNEY, Theatres
ORPHANS, Theatres

CINEMAS
ART GALLERY, 41-43, Upper St, London EC2A 4DF
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CONCERTS
ART GALLERY, 41-43, Upper St, London EC2A 4DF
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OPERA & BALLET
ART GALLERY, 41-43, Upper St, London EC2A 4DF
11.00-6.00pm

GRANADA As London except...
LUNCHTIME As London except...
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YORKSHIRE As London except...
LUNCHTIME As London except...
YORKSHIRE As London except...

ENTERTAINMENTS
ART GALLERY, 41-43, Upper St, London EC2A 4DF
11.00-6.00pm

United pray for turn of Mersey tide

By Stuart Jones
Football Correspondent

Manchester United..... 0
Everton..... 0

This draw was something for Ron Atkinson to celebrate. After three defeats by the League champions earlier this season, United shed some of their inferiority complex even if the point they gained was not enough to convince anybody inside Old Trafford that they will win the title.

They required all three points to retain a realistic hope of catching the leaders. They must wait for Liverpool, marginally ahead on goal difference, and Everton to stumble heavily during the forthcoming five weeks. To imagine both of their rivals yielding a lead of five points would be as optimistic as expecting the Mersey to dry up.

Snow, sleet, hail and rain, driven by a violent wind, washed over the opening stages of the match. United were initially the brighter side in spite of their obvious physical fragility.

Robson was again wearing his harness to protect his shoulder and, since no other regular central defender was available, Higgins emerged with a huge bandage wrapped around the hand that he broke at Birmingham on Saturday.

Underneath a curtain of swirling drizzle a Davenport run and a Gibson cross disturbed the nerves of Middlesbrough, the understudy for Southampton in goal. But once Everton had weathered the storm—in both senses—the sun came out, the gale died down to a breeze and they began to threaten Turner at the other end.

On four occasions they forced United's goalkeeper to advance yards from his area to

clear from Lineker. Yet the first half was to end as it had started and Everton were fortunate to remain level at the interval. Hughes chose a spectacular bicycle kick at the far post when a header would have been more simple and more dangerous.

A more conventional effort from Hughes moments later was held by Mimms; but he needed Mounfield to clear Gidman's low cross from almost off the line. He should also have been troubled early in the second half but Davenport, still notably a stranger among his new colleagues, headed Strachan's centre feebly wide.

More football, results and tables on page 30

Both attacks were lifted by the introduction of substitutes. Lineker, already suffering from a groin strain, limped off with a pulled hamstring and was replaced by Heath, who has been responsible for many late and important goals for Everton. Twice Heath almost managed a repetition of his past feats, but as a creator rather than a scorer.

With an impudent flick he provided Sharp with the clearest opportunity on a bitterly cold afternoon. Sharp, half a dozen yards out, had only to aim away from the two bodies in front of him. With a firm nod he succeeded in avoiding Turner but failed to evade the legs of Higgins.

Heath, in challenging Turner almost immediately upon his arrival, invited Steven to squeeze in a shot from an oblique angle. His accuracy could not be faulted but McGrath, voted runner-up to Lineker as the Players' Player of the Year and the outstanding figure in United's defence, moved swiftly across to judge

the ball into the side netting. United's flames were relit by the appearance of Stapleton. Once he had come on for Davenport, who at times seemed to be playing in a game of his own, and Strachan had, coincidentally, found a regularly aggressive Van den Hauwe on the right, the fading challenge became instantly more substantial.

With 15 minutes left Stapleton, collecting a loose ball, stabbed from close range and Mimms displayed an instinctive agility to equal that of Southall. Seconds later he could only stare in bewilderment as another spectacular and explosive volley from Hughes cracked against the iron fence barricade behind his left-hand post.

United's main opportunity of breaking the deadlock lay finally at the feet of Strachan. Released by Whiteside, he cut through, momentarily considered the possibilities and drove wide. Hanging his head in despair, he knew that his chance had gone and, with it, probably the championship ambitions of his club.

MANCHESTER UNITED: C Turner, J Gidman, A Albiston, N Whiteside, P McGrath, M Higgins, B Robson, G Strachan, M Hughes, P Davenport (sub: F Stapleton), C Gibson.

EVERTON: R Mimms, G Stevens, P van den Hauwe, K Ratcliffe, D Mounfield, P Reid, T Steven, G Lineker (sub: A Heath), G Sharp, P Bracewell, K Richardson, R Roberts, K Nackett (Shafield).

Paul Elliott, of Aston Villa, faces an international ban which seems certain to keep him out of England's two-leg semi-final of the European Under-21 championship. Elliott, who scored England's equalizer in the quarter-final second leg match against Denmark at Maine Road on Wednesday, was sent off and now faces disciplinary action by UEFA.



Chelsea, thrashed 6-0 at Queen's Park Rangers yesterday morning, can still win the championship—according to their affable young manager John Hollins. With nine matches to go, including fixtures against all of the teams above them, except Everton, Hollins is confident his side can mount a successful challenge on the title, Nicholas Haring writes.

Yet few who witnessed the conclusion of Chelsea's distressing Easter at the hands of London rivals, action from which is pictured above, can give his side even a remote chance. It was not so much the manner of this latest surrender that must undermine Chelsea, as the fact they face more vital games without David Speedie, their Scottish international forward, who was sent off (for the second time this season) in the 66th minute after an incident involving Daves.

The frolics of Wembley nine days ago, when Speedie scored three of the goals in his side's Full Members' Cup Final triumph over Manchester City, must have seemed a long time ago as Chelsea lost for the first time on the artificial surface at Loftus Road to a team who are themselves bound for Wembley.

Three of Rangers' goals came from Bannister, whose place for the Milk Cup final against Oxford later this month was in jeopardy because he had gone 11 weeks without scoring. But his last-minute selection was justified after just eight minutes when he put Rangers ahead.

If Francis was less than convincing with his attempt to stop that goal, Chelsea's deputy goalkeeper was even less convincing with Bannister's second in the 25th minute. He failed to come to Byrne's cross, leaving Robinson free to flick the ball on for Bannister to bundle in.

With the goalkeeper's confidence at a low ebb two more goals could have come Bannister's way before the best of them all was scored a minute before half-time. Byrne, after collecting the ball just inside Chelsea's half, made space for himself and set off on a run that took him past two more challenges on the edge of the area before giving Francis no chance with a powerful shot.

Two minutes into the second half Speedie squandered his side's best chance following Fereday's underhit back-pass, but Chelsea fell further behind when Rougrie's misplaced clearance left Bannister with a clear run on goal.

He took his chance and so did Byrne in the 64th minute after Allen and Bannister had combined to split the Chelsea defence.

Both substitutes were on the field now. But Rosenaur made the greatest impact by gathering Byrne's back-header to race clear for another emphatic goal-scoring drive.

With Chelsea six goals down and a man short there was little cause for shouting let alone singing, but the visiting supporters still ended the match in full voice. Their loyalty knows no bounds.

Photograph: Tim Bishop

RUGBY UNION

Swansea ruthlessly take up Barbarian gauntlet

By Gerald Davies

Swansea..... 48
Barbarians..... 13

Swansea, who registered one of their highest scores against the Barbarians three years ago when they won 58-6, were in equally ruthless mood yesterday at St Helens. They won by four goals and six tries to a goal, one try and one penalty.

Swansea have had an indifferent season, their play rarely matching what appears to be their potential. There was no doubt about them yesterday and if on Saturday there was some poor handling against the Harlequins, everything was accurate and went to hand yesterday. Swansea gave an impressive display of the counter-attacking game. They took up the Barbarian gauntlet to great advantage with six of their tries stemming from movements begun deep inside their own half.

The Barbarians started well enough, continuing where they had left off at the Arms Park on Saturday. They attacked with McGaughey and Keay winning much of the loose possession in the early minutes. Pearce scurried for the gap, Thorburn ran wide to the left, then Lewis had a

chance on the right. It was good rugby but it was nothing compared to the brilliance of Swansea's opening score.

From a set piece Dacey went right on his own line, switched to the left and set a long, speculative pass, missing Hopkins, to Emry, who had space and went striding away. He moved in and out when faced with Lewis but passed to Jones, who was in support, as was Paul Moriarty. But it was Richards who took it on.

Picture and more rugby, page 30

knitting inside to send Williams running outside him for Tittle to score the try. It was Swansea's finest of the season. The Barbarians replied after applying some pressure when Robbins picked up from a scrum and passed to Hill, who passed inside to Pearce for the score. Thorburn converted.

Assisted by the wind, the visitors forced Swansea back in defence. Swansea's three-quarter was offside and the Barbarians extended their lead with a Thorburn penalty. Later, Paul Moriarty picked up from the back of the scrum and sent Jones for an easy try. Before the end of the first half the home side had scored another superlative try, again

beginning in their own half with Rees. Richard Moriarty and Hopkins had initiated the movement before Emry went on a long run to send Paul Moriarty in for the score.

There was no delay in the second half and the floodgates opened with Tittle's second try in the first minute. They came at regular intervals after that. Other scorers were Emry (twice), Rees, Richards, Jones and Paul Moriarty. Rees converted four of these. Devereux scored the solitary Barbarian try in the second half.

SCORERS: Swansea: Tries: Tittle (2), Jones (2), Moriarty (2), Emry (2), Rees, Richards. Conversions: Rees (4). Barbarians: Tries: Pearce, Devereux. Conversion: Thorburn. Penalty: Thorburn (1).

SWANSEA: D Rees; M Tittle; D Richards; K Hopkins; A Emry; M Dacey; J Jones; P Moriarty; P Hitchings; K Colclough; P Moriarty; R Moriarty; J Williams; M Davies (captain); T Cheeseman.

BARBARIANS: P Thorburn (Neath); P Lewis (Llanelli) (prop); J Devereux (Gloucester); K G. Williams (Leeds); J Clough (Cambridge University); A Hadley (Cardiff); G Pearce (Llanelli); R Hill (Bath); I Dataniy (Llanelli); W Burns (Lansdowne); I Eldman (Cardiff); A Keay (Saracens); P May (Llanelli); captain; R Morris (Cardiff); S McGaughey (Newcastle); G L Roberts (Coventry). Referee: C Norling (Swansea).

RUGBY LEAGUE

Whitfield has a field day

By Keith Macklin

The championship battle swung towards Halifax yesterday when the Thrum Hall side beat Warrington 18-6 and their nearest challengers, Wigan and Widnes, suffered unexpected home defeats. It seems that Halifax, with three games to play, have the championship within their grasp as other contenders fall foul of bigfixtue backlogs.

The highlight of the Halifax win was a magnificent solo try by Colin Whitfield in the first half against Warrington. They could hardly believe their eyes as Oldham, 6-2 down at half-time, scored four second-half tries with some excellent running and ban-

dling which exposed alarming gaps in the Wigan defence. It was a see-saw second half, with the lead constantly changing hands until Oldham's late burst brought the clinching tries from Foy and Hobbs. The other Oldham tries came from Warnecke and Kirwan; Hobbs kicked five goals.

Wigan came to life as an attacking force only in the second half, their tries coming from Hanley, Holden and Stephenson, with Stephenson landing three goals.

Widnes scored first against St Helens but the visitors damaged Widnes's title prospects with three excellent tries from the New Zealander, Ella, the Australian, Veivers, and the young newly signed winger, McCormick.

Another team to slip from grace were Hull Kingston Rovers, who showed the ex-

hausting effects of Saturday's gruelling cup semi-final by losing 14-8 against the bottom club, Dewsbury.

Salford ensured first division survival next season by winning a comfortable 24-0 victory over their neighbours, Swinton. In the second division Rochdale Hornets revived their promotion hopes by beating Runcorn Highfield 33-0. Chris Burton, the Hull Kingston Rovers' second-row forward, has broken his arm and is out for the remainder of the season, missing the cup semi-final replay at Leeds on Thursday.

SLALOM LAGER CHAMPIONSHIP: Castleford 24, Featherstone 16; Dewsbury 14, Hull KR 12; Highgate 18, Warrington 8; Hull 18, York 12; Swinton 24, Salford 24; Widnes 6, St Helens 16; Wigan 18, Oldham 28. Second division: Darnley 8, Leigh 15; Bramley 46, Kighley 10; Doncaster 14, Batley 16; Rochdale 22, Runcorn Highfield 0; Workington 36, Barrow 16.

CRICKET: THE LAST OF THE ONE-DAY INTERNATIONALS

Robinson patient as England toil

From John Woodcock, Cricket Correspondent, Port of Spain, Trinidad

England were put to in the fourth and last one-day international here yesterday and found a pitch on which it was difficult to get out until the final slog, yet hard, even then, to score many runs. It was brown and bare, in contrast to the wicket a few days away for Thursday's Test match, which was more like a green dragon. In 48 overs England could manage only 165 for nine wickets.

Pitches quite as slow as this one are more a feature of cricket on the Indian sub-continent than in the Caribbean. The bounce was as low as Dhaka, the cardboard texture as grey. England had a share of the one-day series to play for, having contrived a victory here earlier in March between defeats to Jamaica and Barbados.

Their pilot yesterday was Robinson, who had no short bowling or steep lift to unsettle him. He made 55, an innings of admirable patience and much hard work. Botham's flailing 29 was England's next best score.

In the fifth over of the day Goobch, trying to force Marshall to leg, succeeded only in spooning him to mid-wicket. It had taken Marshall only four balls to decide that the pitch warranted only one slip.

The second, Richards, was fielding where Marshall had repositioned him. With the ball coming so sluggishly onto the bat, they were particularly difficult conditions for the touch player, and after 11 overs Robinson had still scored only four. Looking for the quick single is not in his game. If Richards and Richardson had been running for England they would no doubt have found any number. But Gower got the innings moving a little and eventually Robinson found a couple of offside long hops to hit for four.

At the first interval for drinks on a baking hot day, England were 49-1 after 16 overs. The first ball on the resumption bowled Gower, who played round it. Walsh, the bowler, had come into the West Indian side as a more reliable one-day performer

in Patterson. Though a puncher of the ball, Lamb found it hardly less difficult than Robinson to pierce Richards's field, in which he himself was a live wire. Lamb was 11 overs reaching double figures, in spite of his trying to break Robinson between the wickets. Harper, bowling off breaks, proved no easier to get away than the faster bowlers. So that after 30 overs England were only 81 for two. In the 31st over Lamb was caught at the wicket, looking for off-side runs from a low, short and wide ball.

This brought in Botham to try and crash his way into some sort of form, and he stayed for most of the rest of England's innings. He told me on Sunday that he had felt in "reasonable nick" for most of the tour, whatever his record may suggest. He has not always looked it. Now he tried a variety of heaving improvisations, one or two of which came off.

In the fortieth over he lost Robinson, yorked by Marshall, then Willey, caught at

backward cover in the 43rd. With the batsmen taking risks off every ball as time ran out, a near-capacity crowd enjoyed the tip and run and, when Botham had the strike, the burlesque. Botham was caught on the midwicket boundary two overs from the end, needing another five or six feet of height to clear it. Downton kept busy until beautifully caught by Greenidge, and West Indies were left in the end with a target of just under three and a quarter runs an over.

Murray Turner, aged 22, a seam bowler who was out re-engaged by Somerset at the end of last year, has accepted a month's contract from the county for April.

Scoreboard

| ENGLAND | |
|---|-----|
| G A Goobch b Richards | 10 |
| b Marshall | 55 |
| R T Robinson b Marshall | 29 |
| Lamb c Dacey b Walsh | 16 |
| T Botham c Harper b Garner | 29 |
| P R Willey c Greenidge b Marshall | 6 |
| P R Downton c Greenidge b Marshall | 12 |
| R M Edmond b Garner | 2 |
| J E Embury not out | 0 |
| D H Edmonds b Garner | 2 |
| Extras (b 1, lb 4, w 2, nb 3) | 10 |
| Total (9 wickets, 47 overs) | 165 |
| FALL OF WICKETS: 1-15, 2-49, 3-81, 4-126, 5-138, 6-154, 7-161, 8-165, 9-165. | |
| N A Foster did not bat. | |
| BOWLING: Marshall 9-0-37-4; Garner 9-1-22-8; Holding 9-1-32-0; Walsh 10-0-25-2; Harper 10-0-44-0. Umpires: C Cumberland and B Mohammed. | |

SWIMMING

Perfect credentials

Gaynor Stanley produced perfect credentials yesterday for leading England's women at the Commonwealth Games this summer. The 20-year-old from Stockport took the 400m medley title at the national short course championships at Barnet Copthall, her second success in the Hewlett Packard event. It gained her the award of top women's swimmer on the last day.

Her time of 4min 51.73sec was the second best British mark of the year, and she said "When I competed at the 1982 Games I was too young to realize my responsibility to my country, but this time I will tackle it completely differently. I am a lot older now, more mature, and I think my attitude has improved as I approach each event. I have been captain of the Great Britain women's team for the last couple of meets; it is an honour, and I want to keep the job."

It is no good having a captain who cannot win events, and I am trying to lead by example. I would love to be captain of the England women's team in Edinburgh."

Adrian Moorhouse, the 100m breast stroke champion of Europe and the Commonwealth, just failed to break his British record of 2min 14.35sec, set last year, when he retained his 200m crown. However, his time of 2min 15.13sec was the fastest British mark for 1986. He said: "I went out too fast and just died near the end." His 100m success on Saturday clinched the award of top male swimmer.

Mark Foster, aged 15, of Millfield, followed up with yesterday's fastest British 50m freestyle mark of 1986, and a British junior 100m butterfly record.

MOTOR RALLYING

Toyota out in front

Nairobi (Reuters) — Toyota filled the first three places in the Kenya Safari at the end of the 800-mile second leg. Bjorn Waldegard, of Sweden, Erwin Weber, of West Germany, and Lars-Eric Torph, also of Sweden, all driving Toyota Celica TCs, arrived in that order here yesterday morning.

Waldegard, who won the race in 1977 and 1984, maintained the lead he had built early in the first leg. He has

amassed only 115 penalty minutes, 30 fewer than Weber and 117 fewer than Kankkunen, of Finland, who is lying joint fourth with Markku Alen. His compatriot, STRANDESS AFTER DISNEY LACE: B Waldegard (Swe), Toyota Celica TC, penalty 115 mins; E Weber (FRG), Toyota Celica TC; L E Torph (Swe), Toyota Celica TC; 166; A J Kankkunen (Fin), Peugeot 205 Turbo 16; and M Alen (Fin), Lancia Rallye 037. 222; B Alford (Kenya), Subaru Turbo 243; 7; B Maithe (Kenya), Peugeot 205 Turbo 16; 245; R G Gibson (Swe), VW Golf GTI; 274; G Cronqvist (Kenya), Lancia Rallye 037; 281; 10; F Tundo (Kenya), Subaru Turbo; 288.

Connors pays up

New York — Jimmy Connors paid a fine of \$20,000 (about £13,700) and began a 10-week suspension yesterday, the Men's International Professional Tennis Council announced. Connors, aged 33, will not be able to play in a sanctioned tournament until June 9 at Queen's Club. He will not be able to enter the French Open — the first time a player has been ineligible for one of the four Grand Slam events because of misconduct.

The penalties were levied after Connors defaulted for refusing to continue his semi-final match against Ivan Lendl in the Lipton International Players Championships in Florida on February 21.

Richer Becker

Chicago (UPI) — Boris Becker beat Ivan Lendl in the final of the Chicago Grand Prix on Sunday and earned \$50,000 (about £34,000). Lendl said he would not play tennis again until a knee problem was rectified. Becker's 7-6, 6-3 victory ended Lendl's winning run of 29 successive matches.

Hockey prizes

England schoolboys won the bronze medal in the under-18 category and the silver in the under-16 at the international youth hockey tournament in Eindhoven yesterday. The Netherlands won the gold medal in each event.

Up for the Cup

Colombo — Pakistan assured themselves of a place in the Asia Cup one-day cricket finals yesterday by beating Bangladesh by seven wickets. SCORES: Bangladesh 94 (Shaukatullah 37, Wasim Akram 4 for 10); Pakistan 98 for 3 (Mudassar Nazir 47 not out; Pakistan won by 7 wickets).

Hagaby on top

In the Paper Sacks Jan Kjellstrom orienteering festival, held yesterday in Thorford Forest, Norfolk, the men's 4 x 8km race went to Hagaby, of Sweden, in 142min 52sec. Sheffield University came second in 143min 36sec, followed by Airlieaters, in 144min 29 sec.

Mexico blow

Dusseldorf — Bernd Schuster has told the West German manager, Franz Beckenbauer, that he will not return to the national team for the World Cup finals in Mexico this summer. Beckenbauer said yesterday.

"I must accept Schuster's reasons," the manager said. Schuster, who plays for the Spanish champions, Barcelona, is reportedly negotiating to join the West German first division club, Hamburger SV, next season.



Becker: crushed Lendl



Driving force



Mexico blow

